

Walsall & Willenhall CHRONICLE

Thursday, November 9, 2017

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70 firefighters drafted in to tackle flames at council tip

HUGE FIRE RIPS THROUGH PLANT

BY JESSICA LABHART

A HUGE fire burned over two days at a Bloxwich tip with some 70 firefighters tackling the flames at its peak.

Half of the crews were still present the following morning battling the fire at Fryers Road Civic Amenity Site and Recycling Centre.

Blackened walls outside the factory unit clearly showed the ferocity of the flames as crews dampened down.

Residents were warned to keep windows closed and the tip was closed the following day.

The fire broke out on Sunday evening and was still burning more than 12 hours later. Drivers who arrived on Monday morning were told the site was closed to business and directed to the borough's other tip in Aldridge.

Firefighters were pumping water from a underground source opposite the plant and plumes of smoke were still visible from the plant, though the smoke was no longer thick and black, in the daylight hours.

Hotspots

Businesses close to the plant were open on Monday while fire crews blasted the remaining hotspots with water although drivers were urged to travel slowly through the site over the water pipes leading into the plant.

The cul-de-sac is home to Leamore Enterprise Park and consists of several mixed-use units.

The cause of the fire is not yet known with an investigation due to commence in the coming days.

A total of 10 crews from around the area were called to fight the flames which were spotted at around 7pm on Sunday. The ambulance service, Environment Agency and Walsall Council officials were also in attendance.

Group Commander Martin Ward-White said on Sunday night: "West Midlands Fire Service are dealing with a large fire in a recycling plant on Reaymer Close, Walsall.

"Assertive firefighting actions are being undertaken to extinguish the fire.

"While firefighting is taking place overnight we would advise local residents to close windows due to smoke plume."

Due to the fire, the tip at Merchants Way in Aldridge was opening every day this week, it is usually closed on a Tuesday and Wednesday.



Firefighters tackle the fire, at Fryers Road Civic Amenity Site and Recycling Centre in Bloxwich, 12 hours after it started

Improve or close, care home told

THE THREAT of closure looms over a failing care home following its second damning inspection by health watchdogs in three months.

Bosses at Angel Court, at the Manor Road Precinct, in Wolverhampton Road, Walsall, are now in a race against time to turn things around. It was placed in Special Measures by the Care Quality Commission following its initial visit in June where it subsequently gave it the basement rating of 'Inadequate'.

Residents left at risk of harm, unreported incidents and insufficient staff were among the concerns. It meant the home, which caters for up to 25 people, some of whom who have

dementia, had six months to make significant improvement or face the prospect of being shut down. Now, following inspectors' return on September 11, they have ruled that leadership is still 'Inadequate' leaving the future of the home in doubt. The maximum time the home can remain in Special Measures is 12 months, giving a final deadline of June 20 next year.

The latest report said: "The manager was appointed on July 31, 2017 and told us that a meeting had been held with people and their relatives on August 5, 2017.

"The meeting discussed the inspection report and inadequate rating and explained what

actions were being taken to improve the service. However, we were uncertain the meeting had been effective."

Inspectors added: "We requested a copy of the provider's plan for improvement to establish the actions they intended to take.

"Although an improvement plan is not required by legislation it was reasonable to expect actions to be taken to be recorded to demonstrate sustained improvement and to support the service's removal from special measures status." The home has made progress in the area of safety with that particular rating now elevated to 'requires improvement'.

CONSULTATION

Anger at threat to urgent care centre

CONTROVERSIAL proposals to close one of Walsall's urgent care centres has received a public backlash.

Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) wants to shut down the facility in the Saddlers Centre to save £951,000 a year.

It was opened in January 2016 and typically deals with around 120 people a day.

The CCG has argued that the long-term plan was always to close the centre, demand is less than initially anticipated and the money saved will be reinvested to bolster the town's other urgent care centre at Manor Hospital.

But results of a public consultation has revealed the vast majority of people are against the move.

POLICE

Alert as driver tries to abduct boy, 13

PARENTS have been put on alert following an alleged attempted abduction.

A father said his 13-year-old son was approached by a man described as being of Asian appearance who wound down his car window and said he had been sent to pick him up. The boy questioned the suspect prompting him to drive off.

The incident happened on Earl Street, Palfrey, on Friday between 6.15 and 6.30pm. A police spokesman said: "We were called at 6.31pm by a parent." Anyone with information should call 101.

LEISURE

£200k revamp due at town centre bar

A POPULAR town centre bar is set to undergo a £200,000 transformation. Yates on Leicester Street will close on Monday but could reopen as The Registry before the end of the month according to bosses.

The revamp will create five new jobs. Jamie Baldero of Stonegate Pub Company said: "We are creating an independent venue, with local people at its core. The whole concept is about a love of proper pubs."

INSIDE

JOYFUL SALLY IN NEW BENCHMARK



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CONTACT US

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01543 465305
E-mail: walsall.chronicles@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC: Tel: 01902 319430
E-mail: picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk

ADVERTISING: Sarah Jones
Tel: 01543 465341
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PROPERTY: Marguerita Finnegan
Tel: 01902 319627
E-mail: marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Stuart Whitehead
Tel: 01902 319177
E-mail: stuart.whitehead@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail: p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

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Benefits fraudster owned three homes

A CARER fraudulently claimed more than £18,500 in benefits after failing to tell officials about two homes which he owned.

Terence Gordon began claiming both income support and council tax benefit in 2010 after informing the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Walsall Council that he was caring for his elderly father.

He failed, however, to tell them about two of three homes which he owned – one in Gladeside Close, Walsall, and the other in Talbot Street, Winslow Green, Birmingham.

Miss Samantha Powis, prosecuting, told a sentencing judge that combining the properties were worth in excess of £90,000.

Gordon, of Summer Street, Willenhall, also failed to tell the two authorities about three bank accounts which were in his name. His benefits payments were being made on the basis he was a carer with no capital assets.

In total, between August 2010 and October 2015, Gordon fraudulently claimed £18,557.80.

At Walsall Magistrates' Court last

month the 51-year-old pleaded guilty to three counts of dishonestly making a false statement to obtain a benefit.

And at Wolverhampton Crown Court, he was handed a seven month prison sentence, suspended for 12 months, and was ordered to carry out 120 hours unpaid work.

Miss Powis, said: "In interview he said the claim forms were initially correct and that although the names on the properties were his he did not claim them as his."

"He said Talbot Street was his father's home but acknowledged his

name was on the deeds and was legally the owner.

"He said Gladeside Close was owned by a man named Stephen Clarke and that he was given money by Stephen Clarke to pay the mortgage."

Miss Lynette McClement, defending, said her client had made efforts to make repayments since being snared.

Gordon was told by Judge Simon Ward he is likely he will lose his properties following Proceeds of Crime proceedings in the new year.

MP included on list hails from Walsall

A TORY MP who has referred himself to the police following allegations of inappropriate sexual behaviour is originally from the Black Country.

Chris Pincher 'voluntarily stood down' from the Whips' Office and also referred himself to the party's complaints procedure amid accusations surrounding former Olympic rower and Tory activist Alex Story.

Mr Pincher, who was born in Walsall and grew up in Wombourne, is the current MP for Tamworth. The accusations relate to an alleged incident at his London home in 2001.

Mr Pincher said: "Whatever may or may not have happened or been said was obviously many years before I became an MP. If Mr Story has ever felt offended by anything I said then I can only apologise to him."

The 48-year-old was a key member of the Government whips operation and was effectively number three to South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson before he became Defence Secretary.

So far four Midlands Conservative MPs have faced accusations about their behaviour following the leaking of a list of alleged sex pests, on what has been referred to as the 'sordid spreadsheet'.

Shrewsbury MP Daniel Kawczynski has been referred to the party's disciplinary committee, while Wyre Forest MP Mark Garnier is being investigated over an alleged incident where he asked a former member of staff to buy sex toys.

While Lichfield MP Michael Fabricant revealed he featured on the list but strongly denied the accusation he had been 'inappropriate' with a male journalist in a taxi. There has been no complaint and there is no investigation into him.



Chris Pincher

Brewing up success in awards



From left, head brewer Istvan Nemeshanyi with directors Austen Morgan and Mike Bates

BOSSSES of a micro-brewery have praised the impact made by their head brewer after picking up seven gongs at a regional beer competition.

Backyard Brewhouse in Brownhills was established in 2008 by Austen Morgan and Michael Bates who 18 months ago took on Istvan Nemeshanyi as their head brewer.

And now they have reaped their

benefits of his labour, winning seven awards at the Society of Independent Brewers' (SIBA) Midlands Independent Beer Awards. These included the overall champion cash ale gold prize for the brewery's Gold beer, as well as the overall silver medal for 1898.

The two beers will now go forward to a national competition to be held early next year.

Brewery director Mr Morgan, said: "We took on Istvan 18 months ago and we place a large amount of the success we have had at his door. He is a young brewer who has an incredible skill set."

Backyard, based at Gatehouse Trading Estate, off Lichfield Road, began brewing in 2008 and expanded in 2012 to a 12-barrel plant brewing up to 50 barrels a week.

Closure-hit bowling alley goes on sale for £800,000

A BOWLING alley which shut suddenly has gone up for sale, priced at £800,000.

MFA Bowl was the main feature at the Old Hall Trading Estate, off Revival Street in Bloxwich.

But it closed in July last year without warning to customers.

Now it has been put up for sale and rent.

It includes a bar and could be suitable for a wedding or conference venue, according to Old Hall Properties, which has listed the sale.

The 32,100 sq ft site has two floors. Bloxwich East ward councillor Kath Phillips said: "I definitely want to see it picked up and used again – I hate empty buildings."

"It is of a good size and would make a decent entertainment venue again."

"It was sad when it closed, but hopefully we'll see something replace it soon."

The bowling alley used to be known as G T Leisure Bowl before it was taken over by MFA.

It closed last year, along with a snooker hall and the Q Lounge function suite, which was based at the same site.

It was thought between 10 and 15 people have lost their jobs as a result of the closure.

Bin collection changes made

CHANGES to green and grey bin collections across Walsall have been made.

The changes come about as waste and recycling staff at Walsall Council agreed to start working longer days, four days week in order to make changes which will save £63,000 for the authority during the current financial year and £146,190 in the financial year 2018/19.

Crews will still be working the same amount of hours each week with no additional pay, on a rota basis and collections will still take place Monday to Friday. The crews will be starting their rounds earlier in the day, so residents will need to make sure their bins are out by no later than 6.30am.

It means that some households will go slightly over two weeks between grey bin collections.

Former pub to become homes

PLANS to transform a former pub into a house in multiple occupation have been given the go-ahead. The Station Hotel, on Station Road, Bloxwich, will be converted into a 15-room home after Walsall Council approved the plans from J9 Accommodation.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Cycles taken along with motorbikes

A NUMBER of bicycles and a motorbike have been stolen from a garage in Willenhall. The bikes were taken from the garage based on Bilston Lane, at around 3am on Tuesday.

According to the police, the thieves stole a lime green coloured scramble motorcycle and three bicycles.

An alert issued by West Midlands' Police WMNow services said that the bicycles were a men's Scott Aspect bike and two Boardman Junior cycles.

Kevin Pitt, police, engagement and consultation officer for Walsall said: "Three young men wearing hoodies and gloves have entered the property by breaking through a fence."

School green light on recruitment

A TEACHING recruitment ban has been lifted on a failing secondary school after a watchdog declared it was making progress towards clawing its way out of special measures.

Great Wyrley High School, which has more than 800 students, was heavily criticised by Ofsted in April 2016 and branded 'inadequate' overall.

Standards plunged further in the ensuing months with around 30 staff leaving. But now, following their first monitoring inspection since last year, Ofsted has stated progress is finally being made.

Damaged BMW shock for man

A DRIVER has been left with a severely damaged car after it was smashed into on his own driveway.

Adam Heydon, of Ryefield, Pendeford, Wolverhampton, left his silver BMW parked outside his house on Tuesday. When he returned from work he discovered that the car had seemingly been shunted along the pavement.

Posting on Facebook, Mr Heydon said his neighbours had seen two young males in a white Ford Fiesta speed around Eastney Crescent at 10.30am and the driver lost control.

Plans snowballing for Christmas party

PLEAS for stalls holders and entertainers have been issued as plans for a Christmas market are finalised.

Businesses and local entertainers have been advised to get in touch if they want to have a stall or to perform at Darlaston Town Hall for this year's Christmas party. It will take place on December 16 from 11am to 3pm and anyone interested can contact Walsall Councillor Angela Underhill on 01922 279660.

Parents in Walsall top fines table on holidays

PARENTS have been hit by more than £1 million in fines for taking their children on school term time holidays and Walsall seems to be leading the Black Country.

Walsall Council picked up almost £230,000 from parents, Wolverhampton around £128,000 and Sandwell just £39,000. More than 22,000 parents have been issued with the £60 charge over the last five years in the West Midlands, with another 2,000 being taken to court because of their child's low attendance.

Figures obtained under the Freedom of Information Act show Walsall Council has collected £227,310 in fines since 2012/13. Wolverhampton council made £128,200, Dudley £44,100, and Sandwell £39,120.

Sandwell council took 817 parents to court since 2012/13 rather than issue fixed penalties. Fines collected in court rather than through fixed penalty notices go to the Ministry of Justice instead of the council.

The councils were described as carrying out 'scandalous money grabbing' by West Midland Liberal Democrat campaigner Sarah Quarumby, who compiled the data after submitting the FOI request. She demanded more flexible arrangements to help parents who could not afford to pay for out-of-term holidays.

On the bus for advice on health

PEOPLE in Walsall can get health advice while out and about this month.

The Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group's 'Stay Well Walsall Health Bus' will be manned with medical staff who can answer queries and give advice on health issues. The bus will be arriving at Gallery Square, in Walsall town centre on November 17, 18, 24 and 25 between 9am and 5pm.

Professor Simon Brake, chief officer at Walsall CCG said: "It is important that people take steps to stay well during winter by keeping warm, stocking up on medicines from your local pharmacist and looking after elderly relatives and friends.

"The Health Bus is a great way for Walsall residents to ask any questions."

Disco fundraiser

A FAMILY disco will be held to help raise funds for an annual concert.

Organisers are hoping the November Winter Dance, held at The Killock in Aldridge on November 24, can help towards the £1,000 needed to produce the annual BENefit Gig, in memory of Aldridge School pupil Ben Sambrook, who died in 2014.

Colleges launches Anne Frank exhibition

TALIBAN and Holocaust survivors were today (Thursday) attending the launch of a thought-provoking Anne Frank exhibition which has arrived in Walsall. Following a successful launch in London the Anne Frank + You exhibition is at Walsall College until December 6.

Presented by education charity the Anne Frank Trust UK, the display draws on themes from Anne's diary that have a strong contemporary resonance – such as opposing racial hatred, and the value of freedom.

Speakers at the launch were due

to include Taliban attack survivor Ahmad Nawaz who was shot in the arm when terrorists stormed his school in Peshawar in 2014. His younger brother and dozens of friends were among over 140 mainly young people murdered in the attack. The 16-year old now lives and attends school in Birmingham.

Another speaker was Holocaust survivor Mindhu Hornick. Mindhu was 12 years old when she was sent to Auschwitz along with her mother, sister and two brothers. She and her sister were the only ones to survive.

Councillor Marco Longhi, Mayor of Walsall will also appear. He said: "Walsall is very honoured to host this important exhibition. The legacy of Anne Frank is without parallel. To generations past, present and future she is an enduring symbol of human spirit, faith and fragility during one of the darkest times in modern history.

"The significance of Anne must never be forgotten or underestimated. The West Midlands is a widely diverse region, and the protection of human life and respect for all faith groups and communities to live without fear and

intimidation – is central to a democratic and cohesive society."

Schoolgirl Anne Frank became famous posthumously upon the publication of her diary which chronicled two years in hiding during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. After being captured she died in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp aged 15.

The exhibition's opening falls on the 79th anniversary of Kristallnacht, when German Nazis torched synagogues, vandalised Jewish homes, schools and businesses, and killed close to 100 Jews.

Brittle bone sufferer rejected from 100 jobs

A WOMAN had told how she was rejected from 100 jobs after revealing she was disabled.

Shani Dhanda failed to get a single interview after sending out piles of covering letters revealing she suffered from life-limiting brittle bone disease.

But the Walsall resident claimed she bagged her first interview and job as soon as she hid her condition during the job application process.

It comes as disability charity Scope calls on West Midlands companies to create workplaces where disabled people feel confident coming out about their conditions or impairments.

Miss Dhanda said: "It was so disheartening. At 3ft 10ins tall, I'm limited in the jobs I can apply for, and the ones that I was eligible for were not replying to me.

Distressing

"Living with a disability is a full-time job in itself. When you want to work and contribute to society, and you are not even offered that opportunity, it's really distressing."

Former St Michael's Church of England High School student Miss Dhanda started applying for jobs at 16, with hopes of grabbing part-time work while she studied at college.

After failing to secure any interviews, she removed her condition from her covering letter and decided not to mention it to employers. Since then, she has only declared her disability on equal opportunities forms after feeling uncomfortable discussing her needs with bosses.

Miss Dhanda has since launched her own company Social Butterfly Events, which saw her host events for world champion boxer Anthony Joshua earlier this year. But the 30-year-old said



Shani Dhanda with world champion heavyweight boxer Anthony Joshua, for whom she hosted events with her firm

she felt disheartened by the attitudes of employers, adding: "It was a real challenge. It was another barrier I had to face in addition to so many others you have to face with a disability."

Brittle bone disease, which causes fragile bones to break easily, left Miss Dhanda forced to learn how to walk six times after repeatedly breaking

her legs as a youngster. In the workplace, she needs a special chair, foot stool and keyboard to help manage the condition while carrying out tasks. She said bosses need to implement an open-door policy where people with disabilities can speak openly about their conditions, adding: "I think employers need to make the workplace a

place where people can feel comfortable and really be themselves." Nearly half disabled people have worried about telling employers about their impairment or condition, research revealed. Also, it found that two in five people who requested vital workplace adjustments felt uncomfortable asking their boss.

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Ex-TV favourite Kay starts appeal

A FORMER television presenter has launched a Christmas appeal for a Black Country-based charity.

Ex-BBC Midlands Today presenter Kay Alexander has kicked off Acorns Children's Hospice Christmas appeal.

It aims to raise £70,000 towards the nearly £10 million the charity needs to raise each year to continue providing its vital services across the region. Kay, who recently became Acorns President, said: "Acorns is an extraordinary charity and one which is very close to my heart."

Kay launched the charity's very first fundraising appeal more than 30 years ago.

Commons date for businesses

THE message that Black Country-made products are sold across the world has been delivered at the Houses of Parliament.

The Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership teamed up with Dudley North Labour MP Ian Austin to stage a Black Country exhibition to showcase a wide range of goods manufactured by nearly 30 companies from across the area. The LEP demonstrated HVM City: The Opportunity Gateway, a new online portal, allows high value manufacturing companies to register tender opportunities as well as businesses and individuals to access tender opportunities.

Microbrewery set to bring jobs

A MICROBREWERY is opening in Wolverhampton bringing four new jobs, after council bosses approved the plans. The brewery is to open along Tremont Street, off the Wednesfield Road, just outside of the city centre.

The current Soho Cash & Carry will be converted into the brewery as part of the plans. The brewery will employ three full-time staff and one part-time member of staff. It will be open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday and from 8am to 12 noon on Saturdays.

A few tickets left for Motty

JUST a few tickets remain to see legendary Football commentator John Motson give a talk later this month.

Motty, as he is fondly known, is hanging up the microphone at the end of this season after 50 years.

The 72-year-old, who is famous for his full-length sheepskin coats, will be the subject of an 'Evening With' show at the Banks's Stadium on November 16.

Where to drop off your contributions

ALL your donations to the Express & Star's Feed A Family This Christmas appeal will be shared out between food banks and other charitable organisations across the Black Country and Staffordshire.

We are asking for seasonal treats such as mince pies, chocolates and Christmas puddings, as well as basics including canned goods, long-life milk, fruit juice, pasta and rice.

We just ask that festive food has a

best before date of the end of January. Non-food items such as toiletries, new socks and small gifts will also be gratefully received.

The good causes we will be supporting again this year include The Well (Home of Wolverhampton Food Bank).

We are also helping the Good Shepherd Ministry, based in Wolverhampton, and the Black Country Food Bank, which has centres across

Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall. Other groups include Smethwick Food Bank, Walsall North Food Bank and Cannock and District Food Bank.

The appeal will also be supporting The Haven which provides support services to women and children who are affected by domestic violence and homelessness.

The drop-off points are: Express & Star Wolverhampton, 51-53 Queen Street, WV1 1ES; Express &

Star Cannock/Walsall office, Queen Square, Cannock WS11 1EA; Oldbury office: Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury, B69 2DG;

Waitrose Wolverhampton, Penn Road, WV2 4NJ; The Midcounties Co-operative Food Store Codsall, 28-32 Wood Lane/Bakers Way, Codsall WV8 1DB. Donations dropped off here will go to The Well.

Further donation points may be confirmed in the coming weeks.

Give vital gift of help for struggling families



FROM single mothers knowing there is nothing in the cupboard for tea to workers who suddenly find themselves out of a job – food banks are a vital lifeline.

Many have seen the number of people turning to them for help continue to rise with unemployment, changes to benefits and low wages all playing a part.

And, at this time of year, many are also faced with the heart-breaking choice of either putting food on the table or heating their home.

We have teamed up with sister daily the Express & Star to launch the Feed A Family This Christmas appeal to support the food banks.

The appeal was a huge success last year collecting 9,000 items for food banks, the homeless and children at The Haven refuge.

From now until December 16, we are collecting contributions of non-perishable food and toiletries as well as socks and hats.

The good causes we are supporting are The Well (Home of Wolverhampton Food Bank), the Good Shepherd Ministry, based in Wolverhampton, the Black Country Food Bank, which has centres across Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall, Smethwick Food Bank, Walsall North Food Bank and Cannock and District Food Bank.

The appeal will also be supporting The Haven which supports women and children who are affected by domestic violence and homelessness.



Loading up the vans – food being transported to where it is needed

Former Emmerdale star Lisa Riley, who will be appearing in Jack and The Beanstalk at Wolverhampton Grand, is backing the campaign.

She said: "I think this is fantastic. There are so many people who need a lot. We can come together as a community and do that extra bit for people even if it's a tin of beans."

All of the organisations that will benefit from Feed A Family This Christmas are helping people in need every day. The Black Country Food Bank saw a 12 per cent in-

crease in demand between August 2016 and this August.

"The roll out of Universal Credit has had an impact. People are waiting up to six weeks for their benefits and they are already in debt by the time they get that first payment," a spokeswoman said. "We've seen an increase in homelessness too."

The Well in Wolverhampton continues to provide food and toiletries to more than 7,500 people a year. While Cannock and District Food Bank has also seen an increase,

helping 3,634 people in 2016/17, up from 2,676 in 2015/16.

Walsall North Food Bank, which is based at Pelsall Methodist Church, helped more than 450 extra people in 2016/17.

Group head of weekly titles Diane Davies said: "We were overwhelmed by the amazing response we received from our communities last year. This year we have seen increasing demand on food banks."

"Please help us to make a difference to people in need."



Lisa Riley, who will be appearing in Jack and The Beanstalk at Wolverhampton Grand, is backing the campaign

Driver jailed over pursuit resulting in leg injury

A DRIVER who hit a woman and broke her leg following a five-mile chase involving two cars has been jailed for nearly two years.

Christopher Grant was at the wheel of a Ford Fiesta which chased a Renault Mégane from Cannock to Brownhills. Inside the Mégane was Savanna Fisher who during the pursuit phoned her mother to seek help.

When the cars arrived in Chapel Street, the victim's mother was waiting outside her home with her husband, who was holding a broom.

Both cars stopped before 28-year-old Grant accelerated and smashed into Miss Fisher as she sought to exit the Mégane.

Both her tibia and fibula in her right leg were fractured and she later required surgery which involved inserting pins and plates.

Grant, of First Avenue, Stafford, dumped the Fiesta at a nearby canal-side before calling 999 to report it had been stolen in a carjacking. He was arrested the next day and in interview changed his story claiming he had been attacked but had got away at which point he was chased by the Mégane.

He added the Mégane had stopped suddenly and reversed into his car which had caused the damage to the Fiesta.

Grant later pleaded guilty to cause serious injury by dangerous driving and was sentenced at Wolverhampton Crown Court on Monday to 19 months in prison. He was also disqualified from driving for 33.5 months.

Judge James Burbidge QC, said why the two cars were involved in a chase is still not clear.

New nursing chief in place

A NEW director of nursing has taken over at Walsall Manor Hospital.

Current interim director of nursing Rachel Overfield announced earlier this year that she would be leaving to take on a new role in Dubai, prompting a search for a replacement.

Richard Kirby, chief executive at the Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust, has revealed that Barbara Beal will take over.

Mr Kirby said: "I am pleased to report that Barbara Beal has been appointed as interim Director of Nursing following Rachel Overfield's departure to a new post in Dubai."

"Barbara will join us from November 6."

"She is an experienced Director of Nursing having worked in both London and the West Midlands."

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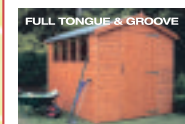
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'Culture of negligence' at firm hit by tragedy

POLICE have criticised 'a culture of negligence' at a West Midlands waste recycling firm where a worker was crushed to death.

The boss of Master Construction Products (Skips) has been given a suspended prison sentence after the employee was killed by a 'dilapidated' piece of equipment.

Investigators described the trommel – used to sort materials – as 'ram-shackled and lethal' with unguarded moving parts and no emergency stops, Birmingham Crown Court heard.

The machine into which Safi Qais Khan was dragged to his death at the site in Pentos Drive, Sparkhill in January 2015 was also surrounded by uneven and waste strewn ground, it was said.

Company director Jagbir Singh, from Walsall, was in charge of Health and Safety at the plant. He admitted responsibility for mistakes that allowed the device to become poorly guarded and badly maintained. The firm pleaded guilty to corporate manslaughter of the 29-year-old victim, originally from Pakistan, who died from crush injuries.

Health and Safety Executive investigators concluded 37-year-old Singh from Brookmeadow Road, Walsall, had neither ensured machinery was safe nor told workers how to stay out of danger while using it.

Singh was given a 12 month suspended sentence, 300 hours unpaid work for his health and safety breaches and banned from becoming a company director for eight years.

He was also ordered to pay £11,500 costs while the company – now in liquidation – was fined a total of £255,000. Det Con Mark Harrison said afterwards: "This terrible tragedy is made so much worse by the fact it could have been avoided."

Walsall Town Hall restaurant to shut

WALSALL Town Hall's restaurant is set to permanently close after becoming 'unsustainable financially'.

A decision has been made to close the restaurant following a reduction in customers and it has been confirmed no staff will be made redundant due to the closure.

Councillor Keith Chambers, portfolio holder for business support said: "As a regular customer of the Town Hall restaurant, I am saddened by this closure. However, it is vital that the council is using its funds wisely and with so much competition we could not continue with the Town Hall restaurant."

"I am happy to say there have been no compulsory redundancies as part of this process."

Gun call police storm rapper's video



Hyden Matthews, seated, in the video

AN up and coming rapper has spoken of the moment armed police stormed his video shoot after a member of the public saw a BB gun being used.

Artist Hyden Matthews, who performs under the name HY Direct, was filming a video for his upcoming single I Ain't The One at a derelict warehouse on Middlemore Lane, Aldridge on Thursday, October 26, when the drama unfolded. A torture scene in the video required Hyden, aged 25, from Perry Barr, to use a fake gun.

At the time when that scene was being filmed, a member of the public

walked by and called 999, believing the violence was real. This prompted six armed police to attend the shoot.

Describing the dramatic incident, Hyden said: "Everything happened so quickly, one minute we are filming and then the next we are surrounded by armed police. I can understand why somebody made that call to the police and I understand why they had to act so quickly like they did. It was a shock but we managed to talk to the officers and explain the situation."

West Midlands Police spokesperson Deb Edmonds said: "Police were

called to a disused factory in Middlemore Lane in Aldridge just after 10pm on Wednesday 25 October by a passer-by who believed there was some suspicious activity going on inside, involving a gun.

"The police helicopter was deployed and following police arrival, it was discovered that six people were filming a music video with an imitation firearm. No arrests were made, though advice was given and the bb gun was taken by police. Officers are thankful for the eagle-eyed member of the public who made the call to police."

Cancer survivor's bench reinstated at park spot

A BADLY vandalised bench dedicated to a Walsall cancer survivor was rebuilt and unveiled, all thanks to the donations of a kind-hearted businessman.

Within days of reading Sally Cooper's story, Wolverhampton solicitor Harsimran Saini offered to pay for another bench to be put back in her favourite spot in Bloxwich Park.

She said: "I was devastated when I saw the state the bench was in. I can't believe someone would do this for a complete stranger."

The first bench was dedicated by the Walsall grandmother to Cancer Research UK in 2014 to symbolise the battle she had won against cervical cancer around the time her son, Martin, was diagnosed with testicular cancer in 2006.

Her mother Kathleen Vernon was then diagnosed from womb cancer which she died of in 2010, the same year Sally's brother Graham developed prostate cancer.

Proud

She added: "Thanks to research, my brother, my son and myself have all survived cancer so the bench meant the world to me. I was so proud of it I used to take family members there for walks."

Mr Saini, director at HS Lawyers, said: "I was really saddened to read about the vandalism to Sally's bench. I found her story very touching and wanted to do something to help."

Walsall Borough Council offered to cover the labour cost of the replacement and the bench is sturdier than the last.

It was put in her favourite spot in Bloxwich park where she walks her dog with her husband, Colin Cooper, and regularly passes it on the way to work.

It all started when she decided to do a Race for Life in 2010 and committed to fundraising for Cancer Research UK through annual garden parties. For her second Race for Life in Himley Park in Dudley, she was invited to start the race for her fundraising efforts and Cancer research UK later offered the bench to her.

On her bench, the plaque says: Sally Cooper loved sitting here...and still does thanks to everyone who Stands Up To Cancer.



Cancer survivor, Sally Cooper, sits on her bench, which solicitors Harsimran Saini and Majid Sarwar paid for



The plaque dedicated to Sally, which is on the bench



How the previous bench was vandalised

NEWS IN BRIEF

£13,000 raised for Reagan's family

MORE than £13,000 has been raised for the family of murdered teenager Reagan Asbury.

The 19-year-old from Pelsall, was killed when violence flared at a boxing event in Walsall town centre on Saturday, October 14.

His close friend Luke Buchanan started an online fundraising page to support Reagan's relatives.

An extensive police investigation into the incident has so far yielded the arrests of two men on suspicion of helping Reagan's killer who is still on the run. Visit www.gofundme.com/r3ji-1 to add to the fundraising total for Reagan's family.

Intruder flees as resident wakes up

A HOODED intruder fled from a home when he woke up the resident.

The man, who was wearing dark clothing and workmen's gloves, snuck into the home on Silverstone Drive in Streetly at 4.15am on Saturday.

But they disturbed the occupant at the home and made off empty-handed.

West Midlands Police has alerted fellow residents and reminded them to ensure their homes are locked at night. Anyone with information on the incident should call 101. The force has urged people to sign up to its WMnow neighbourhood watch alert service.

Employability hub plan for academy

PROPOSALS for a new 'employability hub' at Walsall Academy are set to be approved by council planning chiefs. The school on Lichfield Road in Bloxwich, wants to build a two storey extension at the back of its existing buildings for its sixth form students.

A document submitted with the plans stated: "Bloxwich has twice the UK national average of unemployed young people. Mandatory school leaving age is now 18 years."

"The Employability Hub will provide full time training for students in preparation for apprenticeships."

British Lion Works site homes scheme

PLANS have been submitted to transform a rundown former engineering site into homes.

Zebra Architects have submitted an application to Walsall Council which will see industrial units at the former British Lion Works site on Forest Lane transformed into 18 homes, with an associated access road and parking.

The council are looking to make a decision on the plans by January 24, 2018.

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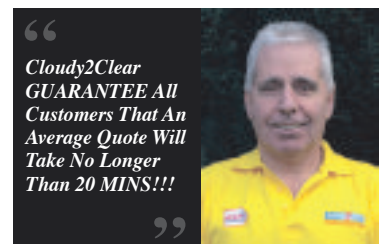
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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



Price rise that leaves consumer smarting

MY bill from British Gas has just landed on the doormat, covering the period when the company we all love to hate imposed its extortionate 15 per cent price rise.

Interestingly, while the latest reading was taken from the "smart meter", which gives exact readings by remote control, the company still found it necessary to estimate how much gas and electricity I had used before September 1, when the new charges came into force. Now if these meters are so smart, why couldn't they have provided an accurate reading for the amount of energy used before the rise?

I have no idea how accurate the estimate was – like a lot of you, I don't have the time to sit there staring at the little black box to keep tabs on how much power the washing machine consumes on its fast spin cycle. But I would be very surprised if the estimate did not work in British Gas's favour. It's funny how these new smart meters tend to be at their smartest when it benefits the energy company.

THE late 1980s were about as good as life in this country got. Sharp suits, fast cars and decent television programmes, a time when we had everything we needed – when a giant mobile phone was a harmless gimmick rather than something which turned youngsters into zombies.

But for all the great things came out of that decade, I would suggest Hofmeister lager was not one of them. The flavourless fizzy goo is best remembered for its adverts starring George the Bear, a leering cockney in a shell suit and pork-pie hat. Incredibly, it is making a comeback. It was even voted the "best lager" in blind taste tests. Which is a bit like saying Ed-die the Eagle was our best ski jumper.

IT SEEMS we have been hit by a bit of a crime wave, with offences in the West Midlands force area up by 14 per cent.

Maybe it is to be expected, given we are now urged to report every bit of bad manners as a "hate crime".

What is revealing, though, is another set of figures showing areas of the West Midlands with the highest crime levels. As you would expect, central Birmingham tops the list with 1,030 crimes in June, but it is the next bit that gets interesting. In second place is Dudley town centre, with 752 crimes – three quarters that of Birmingham – and in fifth place is Stourbridge, with 416 crimes. These two towns have both seen their police stations closed to the public. A coincidence, I'm sure.

Brown revelations and redhead Anne sparks anger



Sinking feeling – David Attenborough. Too much slow-mo and mood music on his show



Not seeing sense – Gordon Brown. He has revealed he feared losing his eyesight as PM



Seeing red – Anne Robinson, causing untold outrage in the shape of, how many tweets?

Fine Dave, but forget the rhapsody in Blue

THANKS for your messages about misused commas. I loved the police drink-drive campaign one Christmas with posters reading: "Don't drink, take drugs and drive."

THESE days, criticising David Attenborough is the closest thing we have to heresy. But at risk of the rack and dismemberment, I think Blue Planet II (BBC1) overdoes the music and the slow-motion.

I WAS surprised to learn this week that mental-health professionals in London estimate more than 11,000 people could experience "difficulties of some description" as a result of the Grenfell Tower fire. Do we give thanks that modern psychology can detect traumatic stress in so many individuals? Or do we simply wonder what's going on? I am reminded of an interview I did with a lady recalling her experience of the 1941 Blitz in Swansea, when she was nine. Her street took a direct hit. She and her family were buried in their cellar for hours. She emerged to learn that her best friend, also nine, had been killed in the house opposite. The next day she reported for school and her teacher asked why she was wearing plimsolls. The little girl explained that her school shoes were buried in the rubble of her house. Kindly but firmly, the teacher said she should go back and look for her shoes, "because we don't want Mr Hitler to think he's winning." That was then and Grenfell Tower is now, and I wonder what the Blitz generation would make of it all.

"I CANNOT work with you a moment longer." With those words, bus operator Sydney Hardy closed his company in Somerset, leaving 27 staff jobless. We can only guess at the stress that led to such a decision, but never underesti-

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



mate the difficulties of employing other people. I have a friend who runs a small company. I once asked him what it's like having 40 employees. "Like having 40 children," he replied.

NEW guidelines from the Good Housekeeping Institute say ice cream kept in the freezer for more than three months can lose its taste. Now, what taste would that be? Ice cream used to be tasty in about 1957 but the modern stuff is taste-free which probably explains why they've started lacing the caramel varieties with that cheap, all-purpose flavour enhancer, salt.

IN his memoirs out next week, former prime minister Gordon Brown speaks frankly about his failing sight. Pity he wasn't so frank when he was in power. I recall showing him a newspaper with headlines about the state of the economy. He brushed the paper away with one hand. With hindsight, I realise Brown was hiding the fact that he couldn't read it. At the time, it seemed a rude gesture from a very odd bloke.

I AM amazed that any politician can defend fixed-odds gambling machines, the devices that can bankrupt a punter in a matter of hours. These infernal machines are Robin Hood in reverse, robbing the poor to make the rich very rich indeed. One spokesman for the industry this week declared that if the maximum odds were greatly reduced, it would mean the closure of thousands of betting shops. And good riddance, too.

BARRY Sheerman MP has been accused of snobbery for suggesting "better-educated people" voted to remain in the EU. But he is undeniably right. Brexit was never an intellectual exercise. It was a genuine working-class movement, the same sort of grass-roots uprising that gave us the welfare state and the NHS. And who is to say that the workers got it wrong and academia got it right?

YOU could just as well argue that those exposed to Britain's lefty-liberal education system for longest were thoroughly indoctrinated in an ivory-tower view of the EU, while people living and working in the real world saw it for what it was. A modern-languages professor in London won't hold the same opinion as a self-employed electrician in Wisbech. The first rejoices in Europe's rich culture. The second sees his jobs being taken by Polish workers. In last year's referendum we did not vote on the basis of our exam results or IQ. We each took our own life experiences to the ballot box, and a majority wanted to be out rather than in.

Meanwhile, here's a lesson in how to create lots of offence from virtually nothing. From the Daily Telegraph website: "Anne Robinson has caused widespread outrage after saying women nowadays are 'fragile' and unable to deal with sexual harassment in the workplace." So what is the evidence for this "widespread outrage"? A million women marching on Robinson's office, perhaps? An internet poll signed by tens of thousands of the outraged? Not exactly. The Telegraph's "widespread outrage" was four tweets from Radio 4 listeners.

TALKING POINT



Just the ticket to drive me off road

The last time I did it, R Kelly was number one in the charts with Ignition, while at the cinema the film "Finding Nemo" had just been released in the United States.

I can't say I found it an enjoyable experience but at the time, it was a case of needs must.

These days, to me, driving is definitely something other people do, which is just as well as after all this time it would be unreasonable to assume that the finer points of the rules of the road have stayed the same.

I was reminded how rapidly such a mundane activity can change by a press release listing 10 rules drivers might have forgotten or did not know.

Many motorists might know they are not legally allowed to flash their lights to give way to others, but how many would be able to say that letting pets out of the car if it has broken down on the hard shoulder is a no-no according to the Highway Code?

Similarly, it's widely known that splashing a pedestrian is an offence, but how about this: paying with a phone at a drive-through takeaway is against the law unless the engine is switched off and handbrake applied.

Talking of pedestrians, pavements these days are turning into an area that could benefit from an on-foot equivalent of the Highway Code. Cyclists, mobility scooters, pushchairs, skateboarders, delivery vans... all are jostling for space on pavements and in pedestrianised areas where space is limited by A-boards, lamp posts, benches, and planters etc.

It's a wonder pedestrians can even get to where they want to, without an unpleasant confrontation or serious injury, but even they can cause problems.

Consider the 'shall we dance?' ritual as people walking towards each other step to the same side to let the other one pass. How about a 'keep left' rule seeing as that's the side we drive on in Britain?

And what about the formation walking teams who stroll along three or even four abreast, forcing those behind them to attract their attention so they can pass without stepping into the road? Let's see a 'leave enough space for overtaking' rule to deal with that one. And when leaving a shop, try looking both ways to avoid collisions with other pavement users.

It's enough to make you want to get behind the wheel again. On second thoughts though, is it worth having to look out for those pesky pedestrians day in day out? Whether on foot or driving, let's be more considerate to each other, shall we? Until then, everyone get out of the way, I've got a bus to catch!

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Trying to follow Winston's lead on EU

I WAS born and raised in the Midlands but work took me down South.

Within a few weeks of my birth the Second World War began to turn in our favour with Montgomery's victory in the second battle of El Alamein (October 23 - November 4 1942).

My first job was a few hundred yards from Buckingham Palace and I stood on The Mall and watched General de Gaulle and Queen Elizabeth drive by in an open carriage.

In my thirties I moved into Kent and my nightly jog took me along-side the wall which was built by Win-

ston Churchill at Chartwell. All this gave me a fascination for the large than life characters of the Second World War, and in particular of Winston Churchill. I even have a book of his excellent paintings.

Although Winston loved his country and its people he was never a Little Englander, possibly because his beloved mother was American.

He would have been delighted by the huge success that the EU has become but he would not have been a back-seat driver like our modern politicians.

He would have been scathing about

the likes of Nigel Farage and Boris Johnson and he would have been ashamed that we took billions of pounds worth of investments away from other EU countries by pretending we were in it for the long run.

He would have been equally ashamed that we now expect special treatment from EU members while enjoying the wealth created by the investments we stole from them.

Sorry Winston I am trying to put matters right.

ROGER WATTS
Walsall

Article on Slade took me back

YOUR recent interview with Noddy Holder brought back memories of me following my local superheros Slade. My school mates and I were big fans. We first started listening to them outside St Giles Youth Club in Willenhall.

Slade enjoyed huge success in the 70s. Back then it was amazing how many people I knew who had aunts and cousins and second cousins all going out with Noddy at the same time.

I first saw them live in 1973 at the Civic Hall. I'll never forget how loud it was and Noddy working the crowd wearing his iconic mirrored top hat.

Dave Hill's outfits are also hard to forget. I went on to see them live many times after. Slade were a brilliant live band. I always thought Jim and Noddy were very underrated. They penned some memorable songs and six number ones. Not bad going in my book.

WILL MORGAN
Willenhall

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Strange adulation of Corbyn by young

THE adulation of Jeremy Corbyn by many of the young is puzzling. He is not particularly intelligent and he lacks charisma. His politics are a recital of dreary discredited Marxist clichés that are very unoriginal. He represents policies that have failed miserably wherever they have been tried.

They have also inflicted misery and appalling hardship on millions. Corbyn has aligned himself to a like-minded group of hard-left rebels, not one of whom has achieved anything noteworthy. A major and deeply worrying aspect of Corbyn's message to the young is his belief that the individual is never at fault. He rejects the notion embedded in Christian morality that evil is to be found in us. In brief he rejects humility. It is a repellent recipe for social division.

ALAN DAVIS
Darlaston

Struggle to get in park on scooter

HAS anyone else had difficulty getting into the Arboretum from Buchanan Avenue?

There is no dropped kerb and as I use a small battery operated scooter, it is impossible for me to get into the park at this point.

I have seen women struggling with wheelchairs but when I made enquiries at the council offices it seems no-one else has made complaints. They tell me there is no money for this kind of work but can find thousands for other projects.

All I want is one dropped kerb to enable me to get some fresh air and to get into the town centre. To get onto the main road I would have to drive in the middle of the road with all the parked cars and traffic including a bus, it is an accident waiting to happen.

At other entrances there are barriers but I need help to get around them. Hoping to get some results.
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D-Day veteran Bertram gets top bravery award

A HEROIC D-Day veteran has received France's highest honour for his bravery in the campaign to liberate France from the Nazis during World War Two.

Walsall man, Bertram Brevitt, was given the Chevalier de la Légion D'Honneur for serving on the landing craft which gave cover to the first wave of assault troops landing on Sword Beach at Ouistreham, one of the five main landing areas for the Allied invasion of German-occupied France.

The 91-year-old now lives in Pembroke-shire and was one of the last veterans in Wales to be awarded the by the French government to commemorate the end of the second world war.

Actions

He said: "I suppose we were brave but back then you didn't think about it." He was presented the award by the honorary consul of France in Wales Marie Brousseau-Navarro in front of his family on October 28.

Mr Brevitt served as Junior Officer on H.M. LCT (R) 438 after joining the Royal Navy at 17-years-old.

Ms Brousseau-Navarro said: "The whole of France thanks you for your actions."

"As a resident of Amiens, (which is in Normandy) I thank you personally, as without your bravery my parents and I may not have been here today."

The Légion d'honneur, or Legion of Honour, was established in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte with the motto honour and fatherland.

It is divided into five degrees and Mr Brevitt was awarded the Chevalier which is known as the knight.



Bertram, Royal Navy Midshipman



Seen today, with his Legion D'honneur

Thanks to leaving trust boss

A DEPARTING health boss has been wished well in his new role.

Richard Kirby has faced calls to resign as chief executive of Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust and announced he will be moving on to Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

The Walsall trust was rated 'adequate' during the most recent Care Quality Commission report and was

put in special measures. However, Mr Kirby has been praised by Councillor Ian Robertson for his 'frank and honest' discussions with Walsall Council during his time in charge of the Manor Hospital. Councillor Robertson said: "I would like to thank Richard Kirby for all of his hard work."

The Walsall trust is awaiting the outcome of its latest CQC inspection last July.



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Autumn is providing its usual vivid display at Walsall Arboretum, despite storms that have blown many leaves to the ground. Pic – Keith Boldy

Online groceries stalling

THE UK's online grocery market has failed to 'lift off' as consumers harbour doubts about freshness and prove unwilling to give up the social side of supermarket shopping, according to a latest report.

Almost half of consumers have tried online grocery shopping but just 15 per cent do so a few times a month, YouGov found. The findings indicate the majority of consumers are still using bricks and mortar supermarkets for the bulk of their grocery shopping.

Market for housing in Walsall on a go-slow

WALSALL has been found to be one of the areas of the UK with the slowest moving property market.

Online estate agents HouseSimple.com looked at the length of time properties have been on the market since estate agents first listed them in 50 major towns and cities.

Sunderland was bottom for the slowest moving with 28.5 per cent of properties currently for sale on the market six months or longer, and one in seven for more than a year.

Across the UK, 12.5 per cent of homes currently for sale have been on the market for six months or more.

For Wolverhampton, the figure was 17.4 per cent with the house that had been on the market longest remaining up for sale since August 20, 2012.

The city has 8.2 per cent of homes that have been up for sale for longer than a year.

In Walsall, one house has been waiting for a buyer since May 14, 2013, and 16.5 per cent have been on the market six months or

Report by John Corser

more, and 7.2 per cent for more than a year.

The fastest moving property market, according to HouseSimple research, is Belfast, followed by Northampton and Reading.

Only 1.89 per cent of current property listings in Belfast are at least six months old. Alex Gosling, chief executive of HouseSimple.com, said "Across the five towns and cities we looked at, the length of time it is taking for properties to sell appears to be falling."

"Eight months ago, when we carried out the same research, 13 per cent of properties listed had been on the market at least six months. That figure has now fallen to 12.5 per cent."

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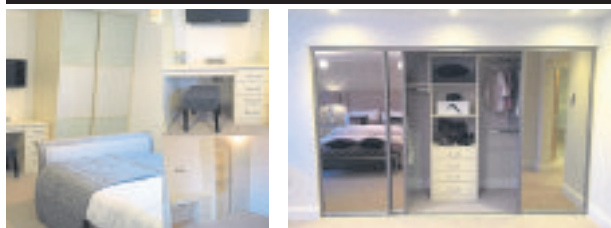


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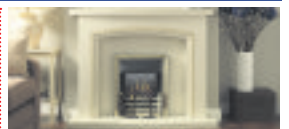
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Bundles of mischief looking for homes



Staff at Lockwood Animal Hospital in Willenhall are caring for these bundles of mischief, who were dumped outside in a box with no food, water or blankets. Now Comet, Whizzy, Sparkle and Catherine are looking for new loving homes.

£300,000 of cannabis is seized in two raids

CANNABIS with a street value of £300,000 has been seized by police after raids on two properties in four days.

Staffordshire Police executed a warrant at Littlewood Lane, Cheslyn Hay on October 28, where 200 plants and a large amount of ready dried cannabis, with a total street value of £150,000 was found.

On November 1, police received a call from Western Power workers who were refused entry to a house in Ebbsay Road, Seisdon and became suspicious.

Police later forced entry into the site, where more than 300 plants with a street value of £150,000 were found alongside growing equipment.

South Staffordshire LPT Commander, Inspector Richard Meaden, said: "These two incidents go some way to showing the local communities my drive to deal with the problem of drugs within our communities. Working where necessary with partners we will identify and tackle these issues head on."

"If you are aware of a drugs problem in your community please call 101 or speak to your local PCSO - or you can leave the information anonymously by calling the free Crimestoppers number 0800 555 111."

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Call-outs to trampoline parks after falls revealed

Farm shop's winning ways



From left, Helen Naylor, Andy McLeod, Kathryn Sharrott, and Jill Fletcher

STAFF at Essington Farm, near Walsall, proved they can dish out the finest delicacies after walking away with two prizes at the Taste of Staffordshire Good Food Awards.

Their latest win comes as the team prepares to head to London to find out if they have been named as one of the best farm shops in the country.

Co-owner Richard Simkin, who lives on the farm with his family, said: "The judges were impressed with the quality and range of stuff that we produce ourselves

Essington Farm was crowned Farm Shop of the Year and Food Producer of the Year during a glittering awards ceremony at Lichfield Cathedral last month.

The Bognop Road shop, which stocks fruits, vegetables and meat, has won popularity with customers for producing its own products, as well as sourcing food from local suppliers.

The farm's shop also landed national recognition after it was short-listed in the Meat Trades Journal's Butcher Shop of the Year.

THEY are fun and help get children off the couch. But, like all physical activity, trampoline centres come with risks.

Latest figures show the rise in bounce parks has also led to an increase in injuries caused by related falls.

West Midlands Ambulance Service says that, along with the usual knocks and scrapes from weekend football matches, trampolining is now being added to the list of most common call-outs.

Paramedics have attended trampoline parks in the West Midlands more than 200 times since 2015, new figures revealed.

The figures, released as part of an Freedom of Information request made to West Midlands Ambulance Service, showed there had been a total of 279 call outs to 12 trampoline parks in the region since 2015.

In the last two years, ambulances have been called out to trampoline centres in Wolverhampton, Cannock, Walsall, Oldbury, Stourbridge and Stone, as well as Birmingham. Calls to the ambulance service have been made after 'falls' or 'trauma', according to the service's call log.

It is statistically still very unlikely anyone entering a trampoline park will be injured, and all centres across the West Midlands and Staffordshire have strict rules and trained staff on hand. But the nature of the centres means accidents will happen.

Flip Out, based at Stone Business Park, has the highest number of call outs, with 28 in 2016/17, up from 17 in 2015/16. So far in 2017/18, from April 1 to September 30, they have called for an ambulance 13 times, taking the total number of call outs to 58.

Jump In based at Bentley Mill Way, Walsall, came fourth highest in the list of call outs for the region with a total of 22, and Flip Out, in Churchbridge, Oldbury, came sixth highest.

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Helping students to reach their potential



The curriculum available to students offers both academic and vocational courses

If the well known phrase about school days being the happiest days of your life is true, surely it is also true that those spent in the sixth form are the very best of all, according to a spokesman at Shire Oak.

"We especially see this at Shire Oak where our sixth formers continue to amaze us with their drive towards excellence alongside their spirited approach to life.

"Indeed the success of Shire Oak Academy Sixth Form can be measured not only by the results the students have achieved over the last five years, nor by the number that go on to universities or apprenticeships, but by the fond

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memories with which they leave our sixth form."

Through a combination of rigorous monitoring, high standards of care, an excellent curriculum and staff with a real passion for learning, the academy continues to push itself to the forefront of post-16 education.

Once again last year's Year 13 maintained a high pass rate of 99% with 100% of students gaining two or more A-levels or equivalent and 97% gaining three or more A-levels or equivalent. In the last Ofsted inspection it was commented that "the sixth form is good.



Students have their own cafe 'The Loakal'

It is well led, and students benefit from good teaching and achieve well".

The inspectors also commented "students are given good support and guidance and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and for future employment".

Modern

The sixth form proudly boasts an outstanding modern learning environment with a wide range of facilities to help students reach their full potential.

A purpose-built sixth form suite, along with a dedicated study block, allows students to



There are opportunities to get involved in school life such as fundraising and voluntary work

enjoy first class facilities, including an ICT suite, toilets, work areas, classroom, offices and enough space for over 250 students to socialize and relax between study.

With access to "The Loakal" – the sixth form and staff café – students have everything they need to succeed.

The curriculum available to students offers both academic and vocational courses ensuring that all members of the sixth form are challenged in a stimulating, supportive and caring environment, allowing them to pursue qualifications and skills in preparation for the next steps of their lives.

There are also many additional opportunities for students in the sixth form. A highly successful period of work placement for Year 12 students in the summer term allows them to secure invaluable experiences in the world of work, residential trips, a broad enrichment programme, and many opportunities to get involved in school life such as fundraising and voluntary work, to name just a few.

The spokesman added: "All of these things add up to a vibrant and challenging two years at Shire Oak Academy Sixth Form where unique and memorable experiences can be fostered."



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SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Monday 13th November 2017
6.15pm - 8.15pm

The evening will include tours of our excellent sixth form facilities, a presentation from Head of Sixth Form, Mrs Hannah Anyan at 6.30pm and 7.00pm, alongside course information and guidance throughout the evening from subject leaders.

Should this date be inconvenient, please get in touch with us to arrange a separate visit at any time.



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Motty on the spot with match talk

HE is one of Britain's best-known football commentators and has covered an impressive 10 World Cups, 10 European Championships, 29 FA Cup finals and more than 200 England internationals.

At the end of the season John Motson will call time on his BBC career aged 72. And he is due to share highlights of his illustrious career in Walsall this month.

The broadcaster, popularly known as 'Motty', is in his 50th consecutive year with the BBC. Between 1979 and 2008, he was the BBC's voice on major cup finals including his record-breaking sixth World Cup Final in Berlin in 2006 and his 29th FA Cup Final in May 2008 between Cardiff City and Portsmouth, an achievement not reached by any other commentator.

"I have had a rather long career and have been very lucky to be paid to do something I love and that is watching football," he said ahead of his Banks's Stadium appearance on November 16 with doors opening at 6.30pm.

"I love doing radio and TV commentary as well as being involved in Match of the Day and Football Focus. Among my highlights are commenting on World Cups. I have been lucky enough to have been to 10. One of the best games I commented on was when England beat Germany 5-1 in 2001 when Michael Owen scored a hat-trick.

"I have been lucky enough to cover more than 200 England games in 49 countries and saw the world through football. Some of the matches that are least memorable are the one-nils or nil-nils when you have to think of something to say, keep it alive and bring interest to the viewer."



John Motson, seen in his familiar role alongside the pitch on matchday

The son of a Methodist minister, Motson joined the BBC in 1968, following stints as a reporter on the Barnet Press and Sheffield Morning Telegraph. After starting out as a sports reporter on Radio 2, he made his breakthrough on Match of the Day during the famous FA Cup replay between Hereford and Newcastle four years later. Originally billed as a five-minute segment, Hereford's shock 2-1 win - thanks to Ronnie Radford's 30-yard strike - saw the match promoted to the main game, with Motson capturing all the drama. Despite rivalry with fellow commen-

tator Barry Davies, from 1979 to 2008 Motson was the BBC's voice on major finals such as the FA Cup, European Championships and World Cup.

"The game has massively changed over the years, especially commercially," he said. "One of my biggest regrets is never covering England in a championship final," he said. "But our young teams have done very well this year and if we can keep them together, bring them through and make sure they play first team football then it would seem England has as bright a future as I can remember."



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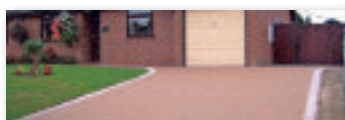
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'Character' councillor dies, 80

A COUNCILLOR who represented a South Staffordshire village for more than 40 years has died aged 80.

Bryn Whitehouse joined Essington Parish Council in June 1973 and also served on the district council.

He continued to serve the community up to his death last Wednesday.

Councillor David Clifft, said: "He was one of our community's great characters. Bryn was Essington and Essington was Bryn Whitehouse."

Councillor Whitehouse was known for flying the flag of St George from the top of a 25ft high pole on his front drive every day for almost half a century.



Bryn

No acting up as Graeme sets target for run



Graeme Brookes

STAFFORDSHIRE actor Graeme Brookes has announced he will be running in next year's London Marathon – having only taken up running 'outdoors' in June.

Graeme, who is currently on tour with the thriller *Wait Until Dark*, has never run a marathon and says he doesn't even like running but describes himself as 'quite impulsive'. He has lost more than eight stone over the last 12 months and has completed 'a few' half marathons although only ran more than 5k and outdoors for the first time in June.

Patron of wildlife trust announced



The trust's chairman Richard Higgs, left, with Ian Dudson

STAFFORDSHIRE'S Lord-Lieutenant has been named a patron of the county's largest nature conservation charity.

Ian Dudson, a keen wildlife enthusiast, has been Lord-Lieutenant since March 2012 and is now the new Staffordshire Wildlife Trust patron. He said: "Staffordshire Wildlife Trust has been working to protect wildlife and wild places where we live for almost 50 years.

"I have seen first-hand on a number of occasions the work the charity carries out, from looking after nature reserves to its fantastic education programme, where it inspires young people to gain enjoyment and understanding of the natural world. It is a great honour to be asked to be patron of this fantastic charity."

The trust is the county's largest nature conservation charity with almost 15,000 members and owning or managing 27 nature reserves. Mr Dudson was awarded a CBE for his services to the ceramics industry in 2002 and is the former High Sheriff of the county.

While running is relatively new to Graeme, the actor who hails from Walsall but moved to Burntwood, did however once walk 146 miles in seven days 'to watch Walsall FC lose badly at Wembley.'

Graeme was named Fan of the Season by Saddlers in 2015 after raising £7,600 for charity in memory of his grandfather. He set off from the Banks's Stadium just in time to watch Walsall in the final of the Johnstone's Paint Trophy. Unfortunately they lost 2-0 to Bristol City.

He took on the walk to raise money for the Walsall Society for the Blind in memory of his grandfather Ronald, who followed the Saddlers for 83 years, despite being deaf and blind.

Graeme explained the challenge saying: "I am going to run, jog, walk, limp & crawl the 26.2 miles on the 22nd April 2018 and I am doing it all for a brilliant and very worthwhile cause. . . The National Deaf Children's Society."

Anyone who would like to support Graeme should go to: <http://m.virginmoneygiving.com/mt/uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserPage.action?userId=GraemeBrookes&fald=890095&isTeam=false>

Leather is topic

NORTON Canes Historical Society's next meeting is on Tuesday, November 14, from 7pm to 9pm at the library in Burntwood Road. The speaker is Michael Glasson and his topic is 'Walsall's Leather Industry'. Admission is free.

Comeback mini-market

A MINI-MARKET is being held at St Stephen's Church in Bideford Way, Cannock, on Saturday from 9.30 to 11.15am.

It is almost four months since the church's last market after the building suffered weather damage. Repairs are almost complete and organisers are urging people to go along to the Comeback/Christmas event.

Business chief voices concern at rate rise

A BUSINESS leader has raised concerns about the decision to increase interest rates.

The official bank rate has been lifted from 0.25 per cent to 0.5 per cent – the first increase since July 2007.

Chris Plant, director of the Cannock Chase Chamber of Commerce, said: "Our preferred outcome was for a further period of monetary stability, with interest rates steady over the near term."

"These are challenging times for monetary policymakers. The Monetary Policy Committee had the unenviable task of weighing future risks to inflation, from a tight – and tightening – labour market, pass-through from a weaker pound and rising commodity prices."

It's going swimmingly well for Ellie's gap year

PARALYMPIC hero Ellie Simmonds has described how travelling across the world on a gap year from swimming has helped her learn more about herself.

The 22-year-old five-time Paralympic swimming champion from Aldridge, has travelled to America, China, Mexico, South Africa, Vietnam, Thailand and Australia over the last 12 months.

Documenting her journey, Ellie said: "Through swimming, I get to go to loads of amazing places, but I normally see the hotel, the airport and the swimming pool."

"Just over a year ago, right after the Rio Paralympics, I packed my bag for a different type of trip. I wanted to get away, to be a normal 21-year-old and wake up and think: 'What shall I do today? I'm so often visiting places as an ambassador for Paralympics GB, and I'm really proud of that."

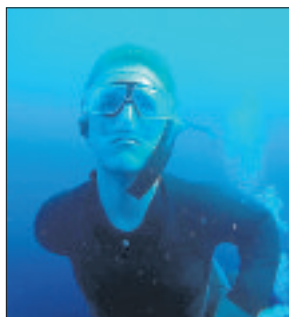
"But I didn't feel like I was representing anyone when I was away."

"I was just Ellie, not Ellie the swimmer, and, to my surprise, that gave me huge confidence."

Ellie's travel activities included people watching in San Francisco, snorkeling in Shanghai, taking yoga lessons in Mexico and playing football for Britain at the World Dwarf Games in Australia.

The former Aldridge School pupil also spoke of how people from different countries approached her differently due to her achondroplasia.

Detailing an experience in China, she said: "I spent more time alone this year than I ever have before, which can be isolating but can also help you to realise how friendly the world is, as



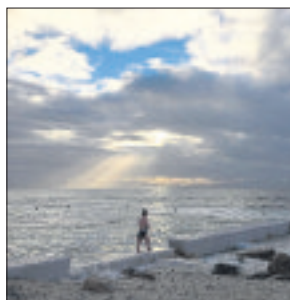
Ellie swam, snorkelled and surfed



Ellie takes a selfie in San Francisco



Ellie with children in South Africa



Ellie seen during on her solo trip

I found in Sydney and also in Bangkok where a man helped me across the road. I was standing on a street corner and he decided that I needed help to cross the street.

"Of course, I didn't: I have achondroplasia, a common cause of dwarf-

ism, but I'm perfectly able to get about on my own.

"Still, he was trying to be kind, and I thought it was really sweet. He didn't talk to me - I don't think he could speak English - but I said thank you, and he smiled."

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WOLVERHAMPTON
MAGAZINE

Firm helps family for crane fan Ben's funeral

A CRANE firm was set to lend a number of their towering structures to be part of a funeral procession in memory of an enthusiast who would visit their yard regularly throughout his life.

Ben Lawton passed away unexpectedly last month aged just 35, having collapsed at his home in Reedswood, Walsall.



Ben Lawton

While the cause is still inconclusive it is suspected his sudden death could be linked to epilepsy which he had battled during his life, as well as autism and learning difficulties.

In tribute to him, a number of cranes from ABA Crane Hire in Bloxwich were due to be included in the funeral cortege heading for Streetly Crematorium yesterday, Wednesday. He would stand outside the depot in Reaymer Close almost every day since he was a teenager – although his fascination with cranes began as a young child, according to his father Steve Lawton.

He said: "When he was little his bedroom overlooked a crane yard. He could see the cranes gathering and used to stand at the window looking out. I had to nail some wood across to stop it breaking. As he got older he got fascinated in Pat Collins fairs."

"Then he became interested in ABA. My wife did a business opposite ABA and Ben got to know them that way. Once he was a teenager he would get up at 5 or 6 o'clock in the morning, go



Dave Palmer, Gerry Pedesta and Brian Webster from ABA Cranes

to ABA and stay there all day.

"I think because of his autism, if something was in his head he became very driven towards it." It has been a devastating year for Steve, aged 65. Not only was he the one who walked in to find Ben on the floor, but it had come less than a year after his wife and Ben's mother Valerie Lawton had passed away from cancer, aged 61, last December.

Anne Baggott, a director of ABA, said: "Ben would be there day after day. He knew every crane, knew all the drivers, he knew the different

engine noises. He even had his bike painted in our green colours. All of the drivers loved him. We always knew he was there. Everyone always stopped to talk to him and buy him an ice cream." She added: "It is so sad. Everyone is really cut up about it, the drivers are devastated."

"Some of them will be pallbearers. We will hopefully have four or five cranes available to be part of the procession."

The firm has also had a plaque made up for Ben which will be put up at the depot.

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Noddy and I have had a hell of a life

You'd expect him to be the showiest of all of the members of Slade. After all, Dave Hill made a career from modelling silver wigs and platform boots. He was the brightest star in Slade's firmament, the one who'd dress most outrageously, who'd model a great scooping fringe for more years than was sensible.

Yet Dave Hill is as far removed from the caricature as is possible. Our scheduled 15-minute chat turns into 45. And the subjects aren't just Rolls Royces and drink, six number one singles and outrageous apparel – Dave talks about depression and importance of our shared history, about his deep, deep affection for the Black Country and a long-lasting marriage.

The man nicknamed Superyob who rocked the world with Slade is more sensitive and thoughtful than anyone might imagine. Yes, there's Merry Xmas Everybody and six smash LPs in his new book, *So Here It Is*, which is published this month by Unbound. But there's also talk about post-War Britain and his office job at Tarmac, about sliding into depression during his later years and suffering a stroke, there's an honest assessment of Slade's split – to paraphrase, everyone started to hate Noddy, though Dave and Nod are the best of pals again now – and there's the slow revealing of a gentle soul.

Superyob? Dave Hill. You're having a larf. "I was born in a castle and then grew up in a council house in Wolverhampton. I had a smashing mum and dad but things were tough growing up in post-War Britain. My life really changed when I heard rock'n'roll music. I said goodbye to an office job at Tarmac and never looked back. I played in various groups before fame came knocking at my door.

"Slade's success didn't happen overnight but boy, were we big when we took off! We had 23 top twenty hits and six number one singles. Three of these went straight to the number one spot – a first, not even matched by The Beatles. Topping it all was Merry Xmas Everybody, which sold over one million copies. We also had six smash LPs, and one time had the number one and two spots on the LP chart. All this made Slade the biggest band in the UK in the 70s, and we were massive all over the world, too.

"Slade had some great years but fashions change and the break-up of the original band was heartbreaking. I thought that would be it for me.

"I battled through depression and got over a stroke, and decided to carry on



Back in the day – Slade in the early 70s

I was in a dark place – I had two years of really bad depression



doing the thing which I do best: I went back on the road with Slade. I've seen more of the world, and more fans, in the last 25 years than I did when the band were at their most famous."

Dave's autobiography, inevitably, was created in his beloved Black Country. He met a writer, from Walsall, who was a big Slade fan and encouraged him to jot down his memories. Publishers were slow on the uptake so they took it to Unbound, the pledge-funded organisation. Dave smashed his target – achieving 116 per cent funding from 564 backers.

"It was a nice process. If I'd been with a different publisher, they'd have been telling me what to write. With these guys, I was just allowed to get on with it. I worked with a ghostwriter, he was from Wednesbury. It was important to do it that way. I was working with somebody who understood the way I talk and who related to my upbringing."

Dave didn't just want to write about the good times. He wanted to tell the truth, to write down his experience of mental health issues.

"The Slade years were incredible. We had the most original Christmas song. We influenced a lot of people. Those years took me to destinations I wouldn't have

dreamed of. Everything was good until the break-up of the band.

"I didn't know what I was going to do. But I'd got a good wife and three children. I had a lot to carry on for." Dave is more candid in his book about the break-up than others have been.

"I spoke to Nod about it, he keeps in touch. He said nobody's really written how the split was. So I did my best to write about how it was. Nod and myself have one heck of a life. We have a love for each other. We didn't agree with everything but we agreed with one thing, to be in a great band. We achieved that. Slade were a great rock'n'roll band. We had uniqueness and an honesty.

"With Nod, there was the realisation that he was going to go. And back then, when I weighed it up, maybe there wasn't any love for him in the band any more. He had to do what he had to do. In the early days it was like we were glued together. But we loved it and we're mates now. We'll always be known for it, especially Nod and myself."

Dave's book is equally remarkable for his exploration of depression, which followed routine surgery.

"I was in a dark place for a while. I had two years of really bad depression and was wondering whether I would ever feel good again. It was scary, it was hard on the family. I didn't trust medication. I found the right person who helped me, a great psychiatrist, who knew about medication. She was a specialist in her area and great to talk to. She told me I was 100 per cent depressed."

The joy returned when he listed to some old 60s music in his car. "The music gave me that joy inside. I went on a shopping spree buying clothes, I was Dave Hill again, that bloke, going out and getting stuff. The dark areas faded away. But I've wrote about that in the book."

Andy Richardson

● **So Here It Is: How the Boy From Wolverhampton Rocked the World With Slade**, by Dave Hill, is published by Unbound on November 16.

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.

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Wolverhampton's Lions of Dissent



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Lions of Dissent self produce and create everything themselves, including the lyrics, music, studio production, video production, art design and website as well as screen printing T-shirts and curating photo shoots.

Currently with 10 members, the group which formed in 2015 features a creative director, songwriters, musicians, producers, filmmakers, web developers and graphic designers.

Speaking about the group's collective philosophy, lead songwriter Tim Baker says 'It's not only through absolute necessity, but an essential part of the ethos that we create everything ourselves - constructing and expanding our own universe piece by piece and

inviting everybody to step inside as they pass us by'.

Having gained praise from the likes of Simon Raymonde (owner of Bella Union Records), Anton Newcombe (Brian Jonestown Massacre) and Simone Marie Butler (Primal Scream) the group have also attracted international interest.

After releasing seven videos on YouTube, tracks such as X Y Z and Heaven Sent have amassed over 6000 views to build an audience and reputation. This has allowed them to release their debut EP 'What Would It Feel Like To Be Free' this week on their own label Lion Rebel Recordings.

Now Lions of Dissent have announced their debut live show taking place in their home city at the Newhampton Arts Centre tomorrow night (Friday).

Wolf Alice ready to rock Academy



The gig of the week sees Wolf Alice in concert at Birmingham's O2 Academy on Thursday, November 16.

Since their debut *My Love Is Cool* in 2015 and a storming Glastonbury set last year, this London outfit have become the UK's premier indie rock band - blending shoegaze guitar swirl with grungy hard rock. The four piece fronted by Ellie Rowsell, pictured, a month ago released second album *Visions of a Life* and won more fans with an appearance on Jools Holland's TV show.

And it's worth turning up early to catch their tour supports Superfood

- returning to their home city - and New York trio Sunflower Bean.

Fans have two chances to catch singer-songwriter Newton Faulkner, at the O2 Institute in Digbeth, Birmingham, on Saturday or Wolverhampton Slade Rooms on Tuesday. He has released sixth studio album, *Hit The Ground Running*.

Mods will be out in force at the Robin 2 for a double bill of Secret Affair and The Chords on Saturday. Expect to be dazzled by the light show when space rockers The Hawklords, featuring ex-members of Hawkwind, play the Bilston venue on Sunday. John 'Drumbo'

French, a former colleague of experimental blues artist Captain Beefheart brings an incarnation of the late captain's Magic Band to the Robin on Monday during their farewell tour.

Afro Celt Sound System and The Dhol Foundation are at Birmingham Town Hall tomorrow (Friday) and The Bard of Barking Billy Bragg is at that venue on Saturday.

Three legends perform in Birmingham including, on Monday, Blondie (Arena Birmingham) and Van Morrison (Symphony Hall) then Alice Cooper on Tuesday (Arena Birmingham).

Perfect role for Strictly's Danny

Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Sunset Boulevard* is at Birmingham Hippodrome from Monday to Saturday with Hollyoaks actor and Strictly Come Dancing finalist Danny Mac.

Mac plays Joe Gillis, a down-on-his-luck writer who stumbles into the deluded world of faded silent movie queen Norma Desmond, played by stage star Ria Jones. The show features the songs *The Perfect Year* and *With One Look*. For tickets see birminghamhippodrome.com or call 0844 338 5000.



The comedy just keeps on coming

It's been a funny old autumn, with comedy festivals in Wolverhampton and Birmingham, but the laughs keep on coming.

Following his sold-out show at Wolverhampton Civic Hall this week, Liverpoolian comic, actor and presenter John Bishop brings his *Winging It* tour to Arena Birmingham tomorrow (Friday) for the first of three consecutive nights.

Wolverhampton's Arena Theatre hosts Brummie Jo Enright with her *Erdington Girl* show tomorrow night. Comedian and activist Mark Thomas brings his *Show That Gambles On The Future*, his vision of what the world could hold in store, to the MAC in Cannon Hill Park, Edgbaston, next Thursday, November 16. The following night James Cook's new stand-up show *Too Many Jameses* is at the MAC's Hegagon Theatre.

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Alfie Boe

The Royal Albert Hall in London hosts the annual Festival of Remembrance. Huw Edwards narrates the event as the likes of Tom Odell, Alfie Boe and Lesley Garrett take to the iconic stage alongside the Queen's Colour Squadron and the Royal Marines Band. They will be paying tribute to the men and women who have died in combat since the First World War. The event concludes with the now-iconic poppy petal shower, which sees thousands of poppy petals rain down on the assembled audience - among which sits Her Majesty the Queen - as a symbol of each life lost. Tomorrow morning the annual National Service of Remembrance will take place at the Cenotaph and will be covered by BBC One from 10.20am.

9.00 Breakfast. 9.15 Saturday Kitchen Live. 10.45 Lord Mayor's Show 2017. 12.05 Football Focus. 12.35 Bargain Hunt. (R) 1.00 BBC News: Weather. 1.15 Rugby League World Cup. 2.00 Live International Rugby Union. Scotland v Samoa (Kick-off: 3.30pm). 4.30 Escape to the Interior (R). 5.00 The Grimy Partners in Rhyme. 5.35 BBC News. 5.45 Regional Programme. 5.55 Pointless Celebrities.

6.45 Strictly Come Dancing. The pro celebrity couples face yet another round of high-pressure performances, as the competition enters its eighth weekend. Only nine duos remain, and Claudia Winkleman and Tess Daly present as the pairs once more take to the dancefloor to demonstrate training has had any impact on their skills as dancers. This time, though, the pressure is higher than ever, as anyone who drops out of the contest this weekend will be out on the chance to dance at Blackpool Tower Ballroom next week. As ever, judges Shirley Ballas, Bruno Tonioli, Craig Revel Horwood and Darcey Bussell preside over the contest, awarding each star a score that could give them a crucial lead in avoiding elimination following the punters' vote.

8.10 Casualty. Ethan's secret seems to have been discovered, but Connie's reluctance to treat her friend gives him a more urgent problem to tackle.

9.00 Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance 2017. Huw Edwards hosts the annual Festival of Remembrance at London's Royal Albert Hall.

10.40 BBC News: Weather; National Lottery Update.

11.00 Mrs Brown's Boys. Agnes looks after a robotic boy that has been given to Dermot and Maria to help them prepare for their new arrival, and Cathy develops a crush on her psychology lecturer. (R)

11.30 The NFL Show. Mark Chapman is joined by former players Osi Umenyiora and Jason Bell to present highlights of Thursday night's game, plus a look at the major stories shaping the NFL week.

12.00 Film: Three Fugitives. (1989) **1.35 Weather for the Week Ahead. 1.40 BBC News.**

00 Holiday of My Lifetime with Len Goodman. (R) **6.45** Animal Park Summer Special. (R) **7.30** Naomi's Nightmares of Nature. **8.00** Deadly 60. (R) **8.30** Show Me What You're Made Of. **9.00** Saturday Mash-Up: Two Minutes Silence. **11.00** Rick Stein's Long Weekend. **12.00** Italy Unplugged. At My Table. (R) **12.30** Italy Unplugged. (R) **1.30** Wild Brazil. (R) **2.30** Flog It! (R) **3.15** Mastermind. (R) **3.45** Cycling – Track World Cup. **4.45** Live International Rugby Union. Wales v Australia (Kick-off 5.15pm). John Inverdale introduces coverage from the Principality Stadium, as the hosts begin their autumn international campaign.

7.30 International Rugby Argentina. England v Argentina. Jason Mohammad presents highlights of the autumn international at Twickenham. With commentary by Andrew Cotter and Brian Moore, and analysis by Jeremy Guscott.

8.30 Dad's Army. A night at the cinema with the rest of the platoon and a black-market toasted cheese sandwich make Mainwaring have an unusual drink. The film is the Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo. Comedy first broadcast in 1972, starring Arthur Lowe, John Le Mesurier and Clive Dunn. (R)

9.00 Film: Effie Gray. (2014) Premiere. A Victorian woman is trapped in a loveless marriage to a celebrated art critic from the age of 19. She becomes a model for a painter her husband is insulting and falls in love with him. Inspired by the relationship and aided by a respected writer, she creates scandal by becoming the first woman to seek a divorce. Fact-based period drama, starring Dakota Fanning and Emma Thompson.

10.40 QI XL. Bill Bailey, Jan Ravens and Grayson Perry join regulars Alan Davies and Richard Herring for an extended Sandi Toksvig for the host edition of the uneventful quiz.

11.25 Film: Private Peaceful. (2012) Two brothers' relationship is changed for ever when they serve in the First World War. Drama based on Michael Morpurgo's novel, starring Jack O'Connell.

1.00 Film: Free Men. (2011) An Algerian black marketer in Nazi-occupied France is forced to become a spy, but ends up joining the resistance. A recent World War drama, with Tahar Rahim and Michael Fassbender. **2.35** This is BBC Two

6.00 CITY: Sooty. **6.10** The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Mission Emplayable. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Ultimate Spider-Man: Web Warriors. **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Torn and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Fangbone. (R) **8.00** Scrambled!: The Powerpuff Girls. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.00** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Saturday Morning with James Martin. **11.30** Gino's Italian Coastal Escape. (R) **11.55** The Harbour. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.30** The X Factor. (R) **2.20** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **2.50** Midsones. (R) **3.00** Catchphrase. (R) **5.25** The Cruise. (R) **5.55** Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs. (R) **6.25** **Regional Programme**; Weather. **6.30** ITV News; Weather. **6.45** **New You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, including a drone flying into a child's face, a unicycling Scotsman and a builder being crushed by a wall. **7.10** **Ninja Warrior UK.** Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara lead the third heat as competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge. (R) **8.10** **The X Factor Live.** Dermot O'Leary hosts the talent contest enters its third weekend of live eliminations, and the remaining acts step on-stage to face scrutiny at the hands of the judges. **9.40** **The Jonathan Ross Show.** Jonathan Ross, model and actress Grace Jones visits the studio, along with former Great British Bake Off winner Nadiya Hussain and comedian Mickie Flanagan. Plus, music by Stormzy. **10.40** ITV News; Weather. **10.50** **World Cup Qualifier Playoff Highlights.** Jacqui Austley presents action from all four first-leg matches, including Northern Ireland v Switzerland at Windsor Park and Denmark v Republic of Ireland at the Parken Stadium. **11.55** **Film: Run Fat Boy Run.** (2007) Romantic comedy, with Simon Pegg and Thandie Newton. **1.30** Jackpot 247. **3.00** The Hungry Salsor. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

0.00 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
6.25 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
6.50 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R)
7.15 Frasier. (R) **7.40** Frasier. (R) **8.05** Frasier. (R) **8.30** The Big Bang Theory. **8.55** The Big Bang Theory. **9.20** The Simpsons. (R) **9.50** The Simpsons. (R) **10.15** The Simpsons. (R) **10.45** The Simpsons. (R) **11.15** The Simpsons. (R) **11.45** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **12.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.25** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. (R) **3.30** A Place in the Sun. (R) **4.00** Best Land Plans. 5.00 Grand Designs. (R)

6.00 Channel 4 News.

7.30 **Volatiles Killer Floods.** Scientists use state-of-the-art techniques to investigate theories that suggest catastrophic floods raged across the Earth thousands of years ago, shaping the planet's landmasses. Aerial photography is combined with the latest forensic techniques to assess bizarre landscapes in America, Iceland and the floor of the English Channel, which all have been formed by huge floods. Previously seen on More4.

7.30 **Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix Qualifying – Highlights.** Steve Jones presents action from the battle for pole position in the 19th and penultimate round of the season, which takes place at Interlagos in Sao Paulo. Recently crowned world champion Lewis Hamilton won his first pole for the first time last year, becoming the first British victor since Jason Button in 2012.

9.00 **Film: Terminator Genisys.** (2015) Premiere. A soldier fighting in a post-apocalyptic war against living machines is sent back in time to prevent an attempt to change the past – but when he arrives, he finds that history has already been changed beyond recognition – and that a plot is being hatched by an unexpected enemy to destroy the future of the human race. Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Emilia Clarke.

11.30 **Film: G.I. Joe: Retaliation.** (2013) An elite military team battles a terrorist organisation that has replaced the US president with an imposter. Action adventure sequel, with Dwayne Johnson.

1.40 The Last I en. (R) **2.30** Hollywood

10.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **10.10** 35 Acres. **10.40** The Gadget Show. **11.40** Santa Makes You Laugh Out Loud. **12.40** **Film:** Operation Christmas. (2015) Drama, starring Tricia Helfer. **2.25 Film:** All I Want for Christmas. (2013) Festive fantasy, starring Melissa Sado. **4.05 Film:** A Christmas Song (2012) Romantic drama, with Natasha Henstridge and Gabe Hogan. **5.05** 5 News Update. **5.10 Film:** A Christmas Song. (2012) Concluded.

6.10 Film: **The Nine Lives of Christmas.** (2014) A fireman who prefers being single adopts a stray cat, but having a pet makes him long for some human company. Romantic comedy, starring Brandi Routh.

7.10 5 News Update.

7.15 Film: **The Nine Lives of Christmas.** (2014) Concluded.

7.50 NCIS: New Orleans. A petty officer is found dead in a sports arena clutching a tranquilliser gun, and the team discovers the killing is related to a kidnapping case from the past.

8.45 NCIS: New Orleans. A naval lieutenant is tortured and murdered, and the case takes a personal turn for Sebastian when he is kidnapped by the killer and forced to assist in a prison break.

9.40 5 News Weekend.

9.45 Live Coverage. Josh Taylor v Miguel Vazquez. Boxing of the WBC Silver Super-Lightweight title bout from Royal Highland Centre in Edinburgh. Taylor is undefeated in his professional career thus far, having recorded 10 consecutive victories that include nine wins by stoppage, but he faces arguably his toughest opponent in Vazquez. Though the Mexican may perhaps be the slide in the tail end of his career he is vastly experienced, having previously held the IBF World Lightweight title from 2010 to 2014, while he boasts a record of 39 wins against just five losses.

11.30 Football on 5: Goal Rush. Colin Murray introduces all the goals from Leagues One and Two, including Doncaster Rovers v Rotherham United, Rochdale v Wigan Athletic, and Carlisle United v Yeovil Town.

12.05 SuperCasino. 3.10 When Calls the Heart. **4.40** Acres. **4.50** Great Artists. **5.15** Wildlife SOS (R)

7B:00 Natural World: Honey Badgers – Masters of Mayhem 8.00 The Mekong River with Sue Perkins **9.00** I Know Who You Are **11.35** The Vietnam War **12.30** Top of the Pops: **1984 1.45** Natural World: Honey Badgers – Masters of Mayhem **2.45** The Mekong River with Sue Perkins **3.45** Close

ITV2
11.35 **Film:** See Spot Run (Spot Run) **12.25** **FYI Daily 12.30** **Film:** See Spot Run (Spot Run) **12.30** **3.30** **Film:** St. Trinian's **2** The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **2.30** **FYI Daily 2.35** **Film:** St. Trinian's **2** The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) **3.40** **Film:** Bean (1997) **5.40** **FYI Daily 5.45** **Film:** Bean (1997) **5.45** **FYI Daily:** Clash of the Titans (2010) **6.20** **FYI Daily 6.25** **Film:** Clash of the Titans (2010) **7.25** **FYI Daily:** Rim (2013) **8.25** **FYI Daily 8.30** **Film:** Pacific Rim (2013) **10.00** Celebrity Juice **10.50** Family Guy **12.45** American Dad! **1.35** Timeasters **2.05** Viral Tap **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** **ITV2** Nightscreen

ITV3
11.00 **Film:** Carry On Follow That Camel (1967) **11.50** Wycklife **1.00** Foyle's War **5.05** Midsomer Murders **11.05** The Syndicate **12.10** Jane Eyre **2.15** **ITV3** Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4
11.20 Fishing Impossible **12.25** The Big Fish Off **1.30** **ITV4** Racing: Live from Wincanton. Coverage of today's race including the 1.30pm Ladies' Handicap **4.00** The Sweeney **5.00** The Car Chasers **6.00** Storage Wars **6.25** Football's Greatest: Johan Cruyff **6.45** Snooker: Champion of Champions Live. Coverage of the second semi-final from the Ricoh Arena in Coventry. **11.15** **Film:** 6 Bullets (2012) **12.15** **FYI Daily 12.20** **Film:** 6 Bullets (2012) **1.30** The Classic Car Show **2.45** **ITV4** Greatest: Bobby Charlton **2.45** **ITV4** Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
11.00 The Goldbergs **1.25** **Film:** Johnny English Reborn (2011) **3.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** **Film:** The Bourne Legacy (2012) **11.40** Gogglebuck **1.45** The Inbetweeners **2.50** Rude Tube **3.50** Broke Girls **4.05** How I Met Your Mother **4.15** Close

Film4
11.00 The Black Knight (1954) **1.00** Short Circuit **2** (1988) **3.10** Song of the Sea (2014) **5.05** Picture Perfect (1997) **7.05** Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (2014) **9.00** The World's End (2012) **11.10** 30 Days of Night (2007) **1.25** The Anomaly (2014) **3.25** Close

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CHOICE



Elton John

Elton John: The Nation's Favourite Song (ITV, 9pm)

For a fan of the piano man, choosing your favourite song from his back catalogue is like being asked to pick your favourite child. Where does one even begin with such a task? How do you devise a shortlist, discarding potential classics along the way? Whatever the answer, ITV has attempted to make us do just that, and now it's revealing the results of a nationwide poll to unearth the 20 most popular of Elton's tunes. But what will make it to the top of the list? Candle in the Wind is perhaps his most famous work, particularly because it was revamped by him and lyricist Bernie Taupin following Princess Diana's death, but there are plenty to more to go at.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.20** Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph. **12.30** Women at War: 100 Years of Service. **1.30** BBC News: Weather. **1.45** Hog It! (R) **2.05** Film: War Horse. (2011) First World War drama, starring Jeremy Irvine. **4.20** Songs of Praise. **4.55** Blue Planet II. (R) **5.55** BBC News.

6.10 Regional Programme.

6.20 **Countryfile.** A special episode for Remembrance Sunday, in which Ellie Harrison discovers how a rural environment can be therapeutic for servicemen and women returning from conflict. She also investigates the vital role played by female canal workers during the Second World War, where Adam Benson visits a school that is teaching farming skills to transform students' lives.

7.20 **Strictly Come Dancing – The Results.** Tess Daly and Claudia Winkelman reveal the results of last night's viewers' votes, and another couple leaves the contest.

8.00 **Blue Planet II.** Creatures that live on coral reefs, including groupers, small predators that scientists believe are as intelligent as chimpanzees. These creatures have a remarkable aptitude for communication to the point where they can interact with other species including octopi and work together to catch prey. Plus, footage of a vast spawning event involving several different species of fish, coral and invertebrates, and time-lapse photography of coral polyps growing and dying, creating a structure visible from space.

9.00 **Howards End.** New series. Period drama based on EM Forster's novel about the lives of three English families at the beginning of the 20th century.

10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 **Alan Shearer: Dementia, Football And Me.** The former England international looks into the potential link between football and dementia, examining some of the latest scientific evidence from British researchers.

11.30 **The Women's Football Show.** A look at the biggest issues in the women's game.

12.05 Ronny Chieng: International Student. **12.35** Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.40** BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Coast. (R) **6.50** A to Z of TV Gardening. (R) **7.35** Great British Garden Revival. (R) **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** Live Rugby League World Cup. **1.00** International Rugby Union. (R) **2.00** Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals. Coverage of the afternoon session on day one from The O2 in London. **4.30** Cycling: Track Cycling World Cup. Live coverage of the third and final day from Manchester.

6.00 **Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph.** David Dimbleby presents highlights of the service from Whitehall, attended by the Prince of Wales.

7.00 **Big Life Fix: Children in Need Special.** One-off special in which Simon Reeve is helped by leading engineers and designers to invent life-changing solutions for three children with severe disabilities. Eight-year-old Josh was born completely blind, a condition that prevents him playing in with his classmates at break time. Eight-year-old Ayala, who has cerebral palsy, would love to play with her twin sister on an equal footing, and 10-year-old Aman struggles with poor memory after suffering brain damage in a car accident. Can the experts help her and the other children improve their lives? (R)

8.00 **Robot Wars.** An experienced contestant returns to defend his legacy in the fourth heat, battling alongside five other contenders through a series of group battles and knock-out rounds.

9.00 **Louis Theroux: Transgender Kids.** Louis travels to San Francisco, where he spends time with children who are undergoing gender-reassignment treatment at UCSF Hospital's Child and Adolescent Gender Centre. (R)

10.00 **Snowfall.** Teddy is given once last chance to put things right, Franklin's uncle introduces him to a potential mentor, and Ocho and Lucia go in search of a new business partner.

10.45 **Mock the Week.** Ed Gamble, Milton Jones, Miles Jupp, Nish Kumar and Felicity Ward join host Dara O Briain and regular Hugh Dennis for the topical comedy show. (R)

11.15 **Rugby League World Cup.** Action from the day's final group-stage games.

12.15 **Film:** The Human Factor. (1979) **2.10** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **3.10** Holby City. (R) **4.10** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Sooty. **6.10** The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Mission Emploable. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** The Sheds. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Ben 10. (R) **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Make It Pop. (R) **8.00** Scrambled!: Wishart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Film: Columbo: Butterfly in Shades of Grey. (1993) **11.25** Tipping Point. (R) **12.25** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** The X Factor Live. (R) **1.55** Midsomer Murders. (R) **4.00** Prince Harry and Meghan: Truly, Madly, Deeply. (R) **5.00** Sheridan. (R)

6.00 **Regional Programme:** Weather.

6.10 ITV News: Weather.

6.30 **The Chase: Celebrity Special.** Martin Roberts, Tracy Edwards, Debbie McGee and Duncan James answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to secure a cash prize for charity. Presented by Bradley Walsh.

7.30 **The X Factor Live.** The third weekend of live shows concludes, with the remaining acts competing to impress the judges and audience and maintain their place in the show. The most popular act of the weekend will win a special prize that money cannot buy. Presented by Dermot O'Leary.

9.00 **Elton John: The Nation's Favourite Song.** A countdown of the singer's 20 most popular songs, chosen by ITV viewers to celebrate his 70th birthday. Elton discusses the stories behind the tracks in a candid conversation with David Williams, while celebrity fans and friends reveal what their favourite numbers mean to them. With contributions from Ed Sheeran, Annie Lennox, Stephen Fry and Elton's longtime songwriting partner Bernie Taupin.

10.30 **ITV News: Weather.**

10.45 **Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera.** Alastair Stewart presents a second selection of extraordinary footage. (R)

11.45 **Play to the Whistle.** Holly Willoughby hosts the sports-based comedy panel show, in which two teams go head to head in quizzes and physical games. (R)

12.10 **Jackpot247.** **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Kevin Can Wait. **6.25** Kevin Can Wait. **6.50** Kevin Can Wait. **7.15** Frasier. (R) **7.40** Frasier. (R) **8.05** The Simpsons. (R) **8.30** The Simpsons. (R) **9.00** The Simpsons. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Simpsons Day. (R) **12.55** Simpsons Day. (R) **1.25** Simpsons Day. (R) **1.55** Simpsons Day. (R) **2.20** Simpsons Day. (R) **2.50** Simpsons Day. (R) **3.20** Simpsons Day. (R) **3.50** Simpsons Day. (R) **4.15** Simpsons Day. (R) **4.45** Film: Men in Black. (1997) Sci-fi comedy, starring Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones.

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 **Britain's Forgotten Army.** Documentary about the thousands of Chinese workers who supported Allied forces in the First World War by digging trenches, maintaining vehicles and dismantling unexploded bombs, but whose vital work went largely unrecognised. The programme uses recently discovered letters, diaries and documents to explore the experiences of this workforce, and features contributions from their living descendants.

8.00 **The Queen's Favourite Animals.** Documentary about the queen's love of animals, from the corgis that have been her lifelong companions to thoroughbred racehorses. The programme features contributions from childhood friends and jockeys who rode her horses to victory, and examines how the queen gained a respected reputation as a champion breeder of not just dogs and horses, but highland cattle.

9.00 **Big Ben: Saving the World's Most Famous Clock.** Documentary about restoration work on the iconic clock tower, which will see the bells silenced for the next four years. Anna Keay, Director of Landmark Trust, goes behind the scenes on this massive project, and talks to Parliament's principal architect and the three clockmakers who have the challenging task of taking the gigantic mechanism apart for the first time in nearly 160 years.

10.30 **Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix Highlights.** Steve Jones presents action from the 19th and penultimate round of the season, which took place at Interlagos in Sao Paulo.

12.45 **Film:** Life on the Limit. (2013) **2.45** The Supertet. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.35** Whisper. (R) **6.40** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.45** Milkshake! Bopping About. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **7.00** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.05** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Bob the Builder. (R) **7.25** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.40** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.50** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.15** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.35** Nella the Princess Knight. (R) **8.50** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.30** Digby Dragon. (R) **9.45** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **11.00** 5 News Special: Remembrance Sunday. **11.05** Film: Let It Snow. (2013) **12.50** Film: On Strike for Christmas. (2010) Drama, starring Daphne Zuniga. **2.30** Film: Just in Time for Christmas. (2015) Premiere. Romantic comedy, starring Eloise Mumford and Michael Stahl-David. **4.20** Film: Northpole. (2014) Premiere. Christmas fantasy, starring Tiffani Thiessen. **5.25** 5 News Update. **5.30** Film: Northpole. (2014) Concluded.

6.10 **Film: Deck the Halls.** (2006) Two neighbours feud over who has the best Christmas lights and end up resorting to desperate measures to outdo each other. Comedy, starring Danny DeVito.

7.10 5 News Update.

7.15 **Film: Deck the Halls.** (2006) Concluded.

8.00 **Rugby on 5: Anglo Welsh Cup Highlights.** Action from the matchday two pool fixtures, which included Ospreys v Wasps, Northampton Saints v Dragons and Scarlets v Exeter Chiefs.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 **MTV EMA 2017: London.** Live coverage of the 24th MTV European Music Awards from Wembley Arena. Rita Ora hosts the show, which features performances by Stormzy, Keshi, the Killers, Demi Lovato, Shawn Mendes, Liam Payne, Travis Scott and Luis Fonsi. Nominees include Taylor Swift, Ed Sheeran, Foo Fighters and Rag'n'Bone Man, while Natalie Dormer, Madison Beer and Sabrina Carpenter are among the stars presenting awards.

10.55 **Before They Were Stars.** (R) **12.50** Lip Sync Battle UK: Carol Vorderman v Martin Kemp. (R) **1.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** Film: Another Cinderella Story. (2008) **4.40** Access. **4.55** Great Artists. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Only Connect **7.30** University Challenge **8.00** Hedd Wyn: The Lost War Poet **9.00** Shark **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Horizon: Strange Signals from Outer Space! **11.30** Was There: The Great War Interviews **12.30** War of Words: Soldier-Poets of the Somme **2.00** BalletBoyz – Young Men **3.00** Shark **4.00** Close

ITV2

11.00 The X Factor Live **12.20** Take Me Out **1.35** You've Been Framed! Gold **2.10** Film: Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) **3.05** FYI Daily **3.10** Film: Looney Tunes: Back in Action (2003) **3.50** Film: Happy Feet Two (2011) **4.50** FYI Daily **4.55** Film: Happy Feet Two (2011) **5.50** Film: Jack the Giant Slayer (2013) **6.50** FYI Daily **6.55** Film: Jack the Giant Slayer (2013) **8.00** Film: Quantum of Solace (2008) **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05** Film: Quantum of Solace (2008) **10.15** Family Guy **11.40** American Dad! **12.40** Film: The Nutty Professor (1996) **1.40** FYI Daily **1.50** Film: The Nutty Professor (1996) **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV3

12.50 Heidi **2.55** Film: Columbo: The Conspirators (1978) **5.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** The Syndicate **10.10** Honest **11.10** Film: Chicago (2002) **12.20** FYI Daily **12.25** Film: Chicago (2002) **1.25** The Knock **2.20** Mr Selfridge **3.10** Agatha Christie's Marple **4.45** Judge Judy **5.45** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4

11.45 Storage Wars **12.45** Snooker: Champion of Champions Live. The opening session of the final at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry. **1.15** The Car Chasers **5.40** The Sweeney **6.45** Snooker: Champion of Champions Live. The second session of the final at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry. **11.15** Film: Gascoigne (2015) **12.30** FYI Daily **12.35** Film: Gascoigne (2015)

E4

11.00 Mad in Chelsea **12.00** Don't Tell the Bride **1.00** The Goldbergs **3.30** The Big Bang Theory: Super Hero Day **8.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: The Inbetweeners Movie (2011) **11.00** The Inbetweeners **12.05** Gogglebox

Film4

11.00 Holiday Inn (1941) **1.00** Dragonball Evolution (2009) **2.40** Carry On Regardless (1961) **4.30** Hugo (2011) **6.55** Tomorrow, When the War Began (2010) **9.00** The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (2013) **11.45** Priest (2011) **1.30** Storage 24 (2012) **3.20** Close

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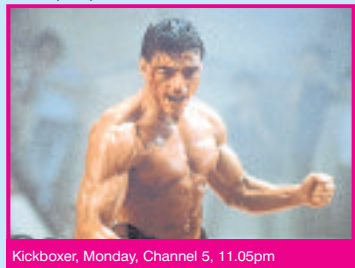
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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Kickboxer, Channel 5, 11.05pm
 A martial arts student witnesses his brother being brutally defeated in the ring by a Thai champion in a fight that leaves him paralysed. Vowing revenge, he seeks out the help of a reclusive master, under whose tutelage he hones his skills until he is ready to confront his enemy. Action thriller, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme, Dennis Alexio and Haskell V Anderson. (1989)

TUESDAY
Naughty or Nice, Channel 5, 3.10pm
 A woman is accidentally given a magic book used by Santa Claus to find out which children have been bad and good. She uses its power to expose the wicked deeds of those around her, but ends up learning more than she would like, getting into conflict with her neighbours and uncovering her boyfriend's secrets. Festive fantasy, starring Hilarie Burton and Matt Dallas. (2012)



Kickboxer, Monday, Channel 5, 11.05pm

WEDNESDAY
Christmas Confessions, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A struggling actress who moved to New York to pursue her dreams returns to the small town she escaped years before for the festive season, where a romance with an old acquaintance shows her that the life she left behind may be better than Broadway. Romance, starring Sarah Lancaster. (2015)

THURSDAY
Angels and Ornaments, Channel 5, 3.15pm
 A model of a carol singer hanging from a lovelorn musician's Christmas tree comes to life in the build-up to the festive season. The living ornament decides to help his owner put a recent break-up behind her by matchmaking her with a childhood friend. Romantic fantasy, starring Jessalyn Gilsig. (2014)

FRIDAY
The Chronicles of Riddick, ITV, 10.40pm
 Fugitive Riddick evades capture by bounty hunters and steals their spacecraft, only to run into an even bigger threat – fanatical cult members on a sinister mission to kill or convert anyone who crosses their path. Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Vin Diesel. (2004)

Legitimate Tommy struggles to leave the past behind

Whether it being buried alive by a wartime tunnel collapse or beaten to within an inch of his life by Father Hughes' hired muscle, Tommy Shelby has found himself in plenty of tight spots. However, the Birmingham crime boss might just have bitten off more than he can chew as Steven Knight's acclaimed saga Peaky Blinders returns for a fourth series. Cillian Murphy, who plays Tommy, said of the new action-packed run: "In the classic gangster arc, the last season was sort of all about the wealth, the house and all that material stuff. This season is sort of a return to the roots." At the end of the last series, set in 1924, we saw Tommy at what Knight has called the character's "most nihilistic." Having ascended into high society from his humble beginnings in Small Heath, Tommy seemingly threw his own family under the proverbial bus of the law for the criminal acts he made in the effort to save his captured young son. Every Shelby except Tommy was arrested at the leader's luxurious countryside manor after they defied the Russians in a jewel heist and blew up a train. Whether or not they have all wriggled out of the charges will become clear, as the new series begins in December 1925. Thomas Shelby OBE has now acquired unprecedented legitimacy – but the gangster is a lonely man, estranged from his family and focused on business. However, when he receives a mysterious letter on Christmas Eve, he realises that his loved-ones and his empire are in danger of annihilation. As the enemy closes in, Tommy flees his country house and returns to the only safe place he knows: Small Heath, the slum where he grew up. Facing a more determined and sophisticated threat than ever before, the Shelseys must put differences aside, take up arms and fight for survival.

So far, we know little of this new danger other than it is a new criminal organisation "of a different dimension," headed by a ruthless crime boss (Adrien Brody), and according to Knight, it will represent the Shelseys' "biggest threat" in the saga to date. Knight is thrilled to have Oscar-winner Brody on board as the story develops. He says: "Adrien genuinely was the actor in my head when I wrote the part. I'm sure he will be a formidable presence." Other new cast members this time around include Aidan Gillen (Game of Thrones) and Charlie Murphy (Happy Valley), who will be joining the likes of Murphy, Helen McCrory, Tom Hardy and Charlotte Riley. Knight adds: "We have a dream team gathered for series four, coming to us for love of the show, which is great." "Adrien Brody, Aidan Gillen and Charlie Murphy give us a wealth of talent to work with, and with Tom Hardy and Charlotte Riley returning we couldn't have hoped for more."



Cillian Murphy stars in Peaky Blinders, Wednesday, BBC2, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Children in Need Rocks the 80s BBC1, 8.30pm
 The first Children in Need telethon was broadcast in 1980 – and now the charity is going back to that decade with a star-studded concert at the SSE Arena, Wembley. Fearnie Cotton and Sara Cox introduce performances by acts including A-ha, Bananarama, Boy George, Erasure, Europe, Imagination featuring Lee John, Jason Donovan, Mica Paris, Nick Heyward, OMD and UB40 featuring Ali, Astro and Mickey. And for the younger viewers, there's X Factor winner Louisa Johnson, who will be getting into the Eighties spirit even though she wasn't born until 1998. As well as hearing some much-loved tunes, we'll also be getting all the backstage gossip from Roman Kemp – and a few reminders of how Children in Need has been changing young people's lives for 37 years.

TUESDAY
Live International Football ITV, 7.30pm
 England v Brazil (Kick-off 8.00pm). Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the friendly encounter, which takes place at Wembley Stadium, as Gareth Southgate's men continue their preparations for

next summer's World Cup in Russia. These sides last met back in June 2013 when an entertaining match – the first to be held at the renovated Maracana in Rio de Janeiro – finished 2-2. The teams had also played each other earlier on that year at Wembley, when goals from Wayne Rooney and Frank Lampard gave the Three Lions their first victory over Brazil since March 1990. With analysis from Lee Dixon, Ryan Giggs and Ian Wright, and commentary by Clive Tyldesley and Glenn Hoddle.

WEDNESDAY
DIY SOS: The Million Pound Build for Children in Need BBC1, 8pm
 The DIY SOS team descend on Swansea to tackle one of their biggest challenges to date, as they build a centre and supported housing for young people in care and leaving care. This special programme also shares the stories from some of Wales' most vulnerable young people as well as the founder of the Roots Foundation Wales, a charity that supports young

people in and leaving care. The team, with the help of hundreds of volunteers, build a bespoke new centre and transitional flats from the ground up for Roots, a charity, part-funded by BBC Children in Need despite storms and a tight 11-day build schedule.

THURSDAY
Love, Lies and Records BBC1, 9pm
 Births, deaths and marriages – it's all in a day's work for registrars. So, no wonder Kay Mellor, the writer who brought us Fat Friends and In the Club, thought a register office would make the perfect setting for a six-part drama series. Ashley Jensen leads the cast as Kate Dickenson, who is anxious about her colleagues' reaction to the news that she's about to be promoted to Superintendent – although she doesn't anticipate her fellow registrar James making a big announcement



Children in Need 2017, Friday, BBC1, 7.30pm

of his own or a disgruntled co-worker threatening to expose a dark secret from her past. Just to add to the pressure, Kate is dealing with problems at home, not to mention her concerns about an upcoming wedding where the bride and groom don't appear to speak the same language.

FRIDAY
Children in Need 2017 BBC1, 7.30pm
 It's that time of the year again when the nation's celebrities urge us to dig deep for a good cause. This year's fundraising extravaganza is hosted by Tess Daly, Graham Norton, Mel Giedroyc, Ade Adepitan, Rochelle and Marvin Humes, and there are plenty of other stars pitching in as well. The highlights include former and current Blue Peter presenters taking part in a special edition of Strictly Come Dancing, while judge Craig Revel Horwood also crops up as Miss Hannigan with the West End cast of Annie. However, even Miss Hannigan will struggle to compete with the evening's other Queen of Mean, Anne Robinson, who returns to host a star-studded round of The Weakest Link. There's also a musical interlude courtesy of the EastEnders, while the Countryfile team swap their wellies for cowboy boots.

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All orders received on or before the 28 November will be sent out on 27 November. All orders thereafter will be posted within 48 hours of receipt, until the closing date of 16 December. Delivery next day.

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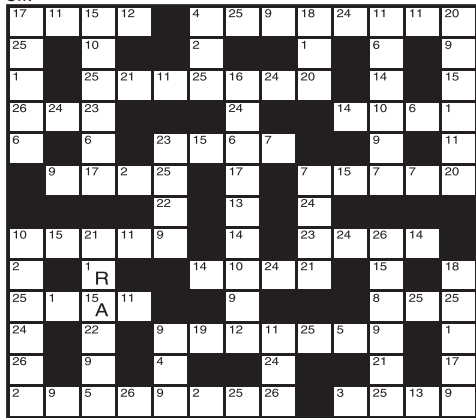
Express & Star

BRAIN GYM

No.455

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	O	R	Q	G	L	X	D	T	E	F	Z	W	U
14	I	P	J	C	S	H	M	Y	B	A	V	N	K

1	R	14
2	15	A
3	16	
4	17	
5	18	
6	19	
7	20	
8	21	
9	22	
10	23	
11	24	
12	25	
13	26	

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

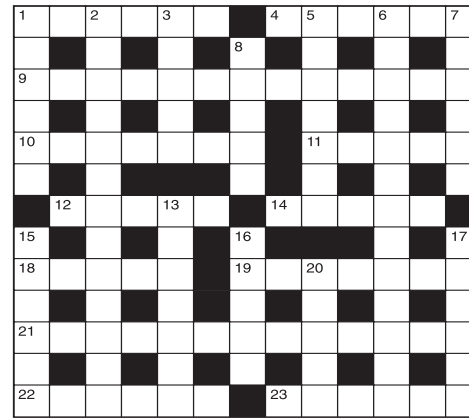
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Woollen material for a head-dress the French sent back (6)
4. They are used for securing a body of sailors in the ship (6)
9. Properly managed, like a successful orchestra (4-9)
10. Regarding a kind of glass (7)
11. It's routine for the sailor to be included in strike (5)
12. See 2 Down.
14. A prison in a state of agitation (5)
18. One in dole confusion reduced the friction (5)
19. Water container for one who puts up a tent (7)
21. Country clothes? (8,5)
22. Skewers, we hear, for pieces of meat (6)
23. Criticises what may be used for house cover (6)

Down

1. In addition, a toff! (2,4)
2. & 12Ac. Use every device when playing the organ! (4,3,3,3,5)
3. Plants displaying a bit of xerophytic activity (5)
5. Puts in a form of words - they are used for lying (7)
6. Number of staff allowed for the household (13)
7. Awkwardly seated but staidly composed (6)
8. At home, I leave Jones, the architect (5)
13. Grazing land providing something soft near the harbour (7)
15. Spikes will cause a broken piston (6)
16. Use a rose for a cluster of flowers (5)
17. Decisive events will produce an increase in the Civil Service (6)
20. Currently variable (5)



Quick Clues:

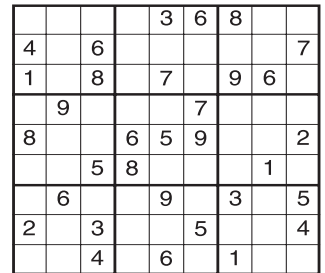
Across

1. Cotton cloth (6)
4. Impede (6)
9. Holding irrational beliefs (13)
10. Friendly (7)
11. Christmas hymn (5)
12. Adhere (5)
14. Stanza (5)
18. Plunder (5)
19. Answered (7)
21. Unsuitable (13)
22. Stretch (6)
23. Abandon (6)

Down

1. Careless (6)
2. Actually (2,5,2,4)
3. Pulsate (5)
5. Object (7)
6. Defer action (13)
7. Outcome (6)
8. Scatter (5)
13. Make less expensive (7)
15. Achieve success (6)
16. Earlier (5)
17. Coming (6)
20. Cleanse (5)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

6	1	2	8	9	4	3	5	7
5	8	7	1	2	3	6	4	9
9	3	4	5	7	6	2	8	1
4	5	3	2	8	1	9	7	6
1	2	8	7	6	9	4	3	5
7	9	6	4	3	5	1	2	8
8	7	1	6	4	2	5	9	3
2	6	9	3	5	7	8	1	4
3	4	5	9	1	8	7	6	2

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Out of service; 7 Sided; 8 Incur; 9 Use; 10 Chameleon; 11 Petard; 12 Gemini; 15 Hard lines; 17 Lac; 18 Amuse; 19 Ivory; 21 Person of note. Down: 1 One jump ahead; 2 Fed; 3 Endear; 4 Voiceless; 5 Cache; 6 Frankincense; 7 Sheet; 10 Caroliers; 13 Inlay; 14 Ensign; 16 Rouse; 20 Off. QUICK - Across: 1 Straight away; 7 Swell; 8 Preen; 9 Tie; 10 Propagate; 11 Option; 12 Limpid; 15 Inspiring; 17 Arc; 18 Globe; 19 Haven; 21 Protestation. Down: 1 Shortcomings; 2 Ire; 3 Hollow; 4 Appealing; 5 Arena; 6 Interdiction; 7 Sweet; 10 Prominent; 13 Plain; 14 Sights; 16 Spoor; 20 Via.

Quiz

1. On which island is Tokyo?
2. Which South American revolutionary was known as The Liberator?
3. Who formed the Free French in the UK in WW2?
4. Which Gothic horror story is subtitled The Modern Prometheus?
5. Which OT prophet was carried to heaven in a fiery chariot?
6. For which fish is Canada's Fraser River famous?
7. With which football team did multi-millionaire Sir Jack Hayward enjoy a long association?
8. In Scandinavian mythology, who were the three goddesses of fate?
9. In which country is the yuan the standard monetary unit?
10. Which peninsula contains much of Denmark?

Last week's solutions:

- Quiz: 1 Mole; 2 Sir Henry Morgan; 3 Russia; 4 Methodism; 5 Achilles; 6 Hamilton; 7 Dog; 8 Basketball; 9 The Loch Ness Monster; 10 Selective breeding.

Niner: SYNCOPATE

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

- 53169 gives a family member,
423 gives a second family member,
7538 gives a third family member.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY
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BUYING AND
LETTING

Four-bedroomed family home enjoys countryside views

A traditional style extended semi-detached family home, 113 Long Lane, Great Wyrley, Walsall, lies in a semi-rural location with views over open farmland.

It is for sale through Marrion & Co at £224,950 with no chain.

With double glazing and gas central heating, the property briefly comprises of a spacious lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen, conservatory, utility room, downstairs wc, four bedrooms, family bathroom, driveway, small garage/workshop and rear garden.

The property is placed within easy reach of many local amenities, including frequent and regular public transport services, schools catering for children of all age groups and places of public worship.

Outside, a tarmac driveway gives off-road parking for two vehicles.

The entrance hallway has wooden flooring and stairs off. The lounge has a bow window to the front and a feature fireplace housing a flame-effect gas fire, wooden flooring and glazed folding doors to the dining room. This has wooden flooring and sliding patio doors through to the conservatory.

The breakfast kitchen has a range of wall and base units with contrasting work surfaces over, a built-in electric double oven, integrated dishwasher, fridge, breakfast bar, tiled flooring, and under stairs storage cupboard.

Upstairs, bedroom one has farmland views and bedroom furniture including wardrobes and over bed storage and laminate flooring. Bedroom two has fitted wardrobes with mirrored sliding doors and laminate wood-effect flooring. There are two further bedrooms. The family bathroom/WC includes a dressing area.

The rear garden has a decked seating area, steps down to lawn leading onto a further patio seating area with wonderful views over open farmland.

TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Marrion & Co

TEL: 01922 404446

EMAIL: sales@marrionsurveyors.com



KEY FEATURES

Traditional semi-detached
Extended
4 bedrooms
Bathroom & guest WC
Small garage/workshop



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LOT
TBC

**Holyhead Road
Moxley**

9th and 16th November at 10am



●Guide Price £65,000 PLUS

Situated in a popular residential area just of the black country new road this three bedroom semi detached is ideally suited towards an investor. The property is in need of modernisation and with all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge and Kitchen with door to rear. First Floor Three Bedrooms and one Bathroom. Outside At the front of the property there is a garden and drive providing off road parking. At the rear of the property there is a garden.

LOT
TBC

**Coleshill Road
Hodge Hill**

13th November 11am and 20th November 3pm



●Guide Price £215,000 PLUS

This traditionally styled gas centrally heated and double glazed detached property is located on a corner plot in a sought after residential area of Birmingham. With good transport links, the property is in need of some basic modernisation, but offers an ideal opportunity for owner occupation or and an investor. Ground Floor Enclosed Porch, Reception Hall with W.C. off. Open plan through Lounge/Dining Room, Lounge area measuring 4.56m x 3.44m with bay to front and feature fireplace, Dining Area 3.47m x 3.62m with sliding patio doors to rear Garden. Kitchen 3.23m x 2.86m with range of units. First Floor Staircase leads to landing with access to Bedroom 1 (front) 4.62m x 3.38m, Bedroom 2 (rear) 3.48m x 3.41m, Bedroom 3 (rear) 2.93m x 2.46m, Bathroom with matching suite.

LOT
TBC

**Stag Hill Road
Bloxwich**

9th and 16th November 10:45am



●Guide Price £70,000 PLUS

This three bedroom semi detached property is in need of modernisation throughout. This property offers a lot of potential and would be ideally suited towards an investor. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Reception Room (3.9m x 3.9m), Kitchen (5.1m x 2.2m) with door providing access to rear. First Floor Bedroom one (4.2m x 2.9m), Bedroom two (3.6m x 2.5m), Bedroom three (2.5m x 2.3m).

LOT
TBC

**Chigwell Close
Castle Vale**

13th November 11:30am and 20th November 3:30pm



●Guide Price £110,000 PLUS

A modern semi detached family home, with part double glazing and gas fired central heating. Conveniently located the property offers spacious well planned living accommodation and is in need of basic improvements. Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Large fully enclosed Porch, front door to Entrance Hall, with large stone cupboard off and Guest W.C. Lounge 4.07m x 3.81m, Dining Room 3.09m x 3.79m, Kitchen 4.07m x 2.85 with oven and hob and range of units. First Floor Landing with airing cupboard provides access to Bedroom 1 (front) 4.1m x 2.9m, Bedroom 2 (front) 3.14m x 3.85m, Bedroom 3 (rear) 3.84m x 2.034m, Bedroom 4 (rear) 3.23m x 2.86m. Bathroom.

LOT
TBC

**Cherry Tree Avenue
Walsall**

By appointment through auctioneers



●Guide Price £135,000 PLUS

A well maintained semi-detached property offering appealing living accommodation which of particular note enjoys a delightful rear garden together with good sized through Lounge/Dining Room. Conveniently situated close to all local amenities including ease of access to the Midlands motorway network at junction 7 Great Barr. The gas centrally heated UPVC double glazed property includes Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge (3.81m x 3.5m), Second reception room (3.58m x 3.43m), Kitchen (3.25m x 2.03m), First Floor Master Bedroom (3.81m x 3.58m), Bedroom two (3.6m x 3.4m), Bedroom three (2.5m x 2.3m). Outside Garage (7.26m x 3.2m) and a delightful rear garden.

LOT
TBC

**Glastonbury Crescent
Bloxwich**

9th and 16th November 11:45am



●Guide Price £40,000 PLUS

Situated in a popular residential area this three bedroom semi detached property is ideally suited towards an investor. The first floor of the property is in need of total modernisation and improvement whereas the ground floor requires only light modernisation. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Front leads to Lounge with window overlooking the front garden and Kitchen with back door providing access to the garden. First Floor: Three Bedrooms

LOT
TBC

**Working Mens Club, Hednesford Road
Brownhills**

By appointment through Auctioneer



●Guide Price £135,000 PLUS

Situated just off the A5 Watling Street within a short distance of Brownhills Town Centre, this former Working Men's Club occupies a plot approximately 0.36 of an acre and lends itself for residential development, subject to the necessary Planning. Set back behind a small forecourt, there is a side driveway leading to ample off street parking.

LOT
TBC

**Holden Crescent
Walsall**

14th November and 21st November at 11:30am



●Guide Price £32,000 PLUS

This ground floor maisonette is situated in a convenient location ideal for buy to let investment. Offering upvc double glazing the property includes:
Ground Floor Living Room, Re-Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Shower/Bathroom Outside Communal Rear Gardens

LOT
TBC

**Stowe Street
Bloxwich**

9th and 16th November 11:15am



●Guide Price £75,000 PLUS

Situated in a popular residential area a short distance from Bloxwich town centre this three bedroom semi detached property is in need of modernisation throughout. This property would be ideally suited towards an investor and with all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Lounge (4.7m x 3.3m), Kitchen (5.5m x 2.8m) and W.C. First Floor Bedroom one (3.5m x 2.6m), Bedroom two (3.8m x 2.9m), Bedroom three (2.9m x 1.7m), Bathroom (1.9m x 2.1m)

LOT
TBC

**Sunnymede Road
Kingswinford**

15th November and 22nd November 11am



●Guide Price £100,000 PLUS

This three bedroom semi detached property offers great potential for a future purchaser. With double glazing and gas central heating already fitted this property requires little modernisation. The property is situated in a popular residential area.

LOT
TBC

**Bloxwich Road
Walsall**

14th November and 21st November 11am



Situated within a short distance of Walsall Town Centre, this Victorian mid terraced property offers spacious well planned accommodation with the benefit of gas central heating and part double glazing. Ideally suited to the needs of an investor or first time buyer.

●Guide Price £75,000 PLUS

LOT
TBC

**Myatt Way
Aldridge**

9th and 16th November 12:30pm



Situated in a popular residential area just outside Aldridge town centre this three bedroom semi detached property is in need of complete modernisation and improvement. This property would be ideally suited towards an investor and with all amenities close at hand it comprises: Tenure Freehold Ground Floor Reception Room (6m x 3m) Kitchen (2.5m x 2.5m) First Floor Bedroom one (3.5m x 3m), Bedroom Two (3m x 3m), Bedroom three (2.5m x 1.5m) Bathroom (1.5m x 1.5m) Outside At the front and rear of the property there is overgrown gardens.

●Guide Price £50,000 PLUS

●Guides are provided as an indication of each seller's minimum expectation. They are not necessarily figures which a property will sell for and may change at any time prior to the auction. Each property will be offered subject to a Reserve (a figure below which the Auctioneer cannot sell the property during the auction) which we expect will be set within the Guide Range or no more than 10% above a single figure Guide



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Netley Road, Bloxwich Walsall

Auction Guide Price £80,000

NEW

	1		2
	1	EPC D	

Benton Crescent, Walsall

Offers in the Region Of £165,000

	1		3
	1	EPC C	

Somerfield Road, Bloxwich Walsall

Offers in the Region Of £129,950

**SOLD STC
SIMILAR REQUIRED**

	2		3
	1	EPC D	



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ESTATE AGENTS

Wetherby Road, Turnberry Walsall

Offers in the Region Of £165,000

**SOLD STC
SIMILAR REQUIRED**

	1		3
	2	EPC D	

Millfield Avenue, Bloxwich Walsall

£115,000 Offers

**SOLD STC
SIMILAR REQUIRED**

	1		3
	1	EPC D	

Bamford Road, Bloxwich Walsall

£249,950 Offers

**SOLD STC
SIMILAR REQUIRED**

	2		3
	1	EPC D	

Victoria Avenue, Bloxwich Walsall

Offers in the Region Of £265,000

	3		4
	2	EPC E	

Stamping Way, Bloxwich Walsall

Offers in the Region Of £174,950

	1		3
	2	EPC B	

Tintern Crescent, Bloxwich Walsall

Offers in the Region Of £115,000

	1		2
	1	EPC D	



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Church Road, Short Heath, Willenhall
Offers in the Region Of £280,000



Linnet Grove, Coppice Farm, Willenhall
OIXO £260,000



Shoreham Close, Willenhall
£235,000



Pooles Lane, Short Heath, Willenhall
£235,000



Clothier Street, Willenhall
£160,000



Shoreham Close, Willenhall
£155,000



Perth Road, Summer Hayes, Willenhall
£150,000



Leven Drive, Coppice Farm Willenhall
£140,000



Stroud Avenue, Willenhall
OIXO £135,000



Bentley Road North, Bentley, Walsall
£129,950



Kingfisher Court, Clarks Lane, Willenhall
£90,000



Essington Way, Wolverhampton
OIXO f £80,000

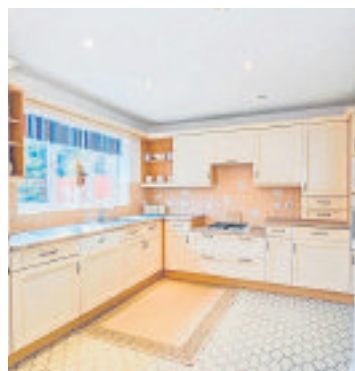
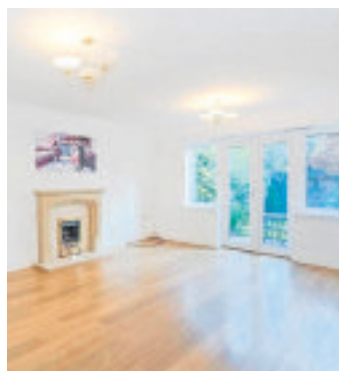


Taverners Close, New Invention, Willenhall
£73,000



Market Place, Willenhall
OIXO £60,000





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BLOXWICH
£325,000

In a sought-after location in a small exclusive development, this four-bedroomed modern property in Bealeys Close, Bloxwich, Walsall, is for sale through Webbs at £325,000 with no chain.

Having easy access to the King George V Memorial playing fields, it is also close to local amenities, Bloxwich High Street and adjacent to the Turnberry Estate. In brief the property consists of an entrance hallway, a study, a spacious lounge with French doors to the garden, a dining room, a guest WC, a breakfast kitchen, a utility room and a conservatory.

To the first floor are four bedrooms with the master having fitted bedroom furniture and an en-suite bathroom and further family bathroom.

Contact Webbs on 01922 663399.



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31

The Chronicle Thursday, November 9, 2017



- Broadway North, Walsall**
- Over 60 Retirement Apartment
 - New Build
 - Ground Floor
 - One Bedroom
 - Walk in Shower Room
 - Communal Lounge



£925 PCM



- Ripon road, Walsall**
- ●●●●NEW BUILD●●●●
 - Two Bedroom Detached
 - Bungalow
 - Front Off Road Parking
 - Rear Garden
 - Rating -TBC



£650 PCM



- Ladypool Close, Rushall**
- Two Bedroom recently refurbished First Floor Maisonette
 - Open plan Lounge/Kitchen
 - shower over bath
 - Shared rear garden
 - off road parking to side

£475.00 PCM



- Rothesay Way, Willenhall**
- Three/Four Bedroom Semi-Detached
 - Lounge
 - Dining Room
 - Third Reception/Fourth Bedroom
 - Kitchen
 - EPC 70



£650 PCM



- Ripon Road, Walsall**
- ●●●●NEW BUILD●●●●
 - Two Bedroom Detached
 - Bungalow with Garage
 - New Flooring Throughout
 - Rear Garden
 - Rating-TBC



£725.00



- Telford Road, Beechdale**
- Three Bedroom End of Terrace
 - Double Glazing
 - Gas Central Heating
 - Fitted Kitchen
 - Family Bathroom
 - Front and Rear Gardens

£595 PCM



- Cresswell Crescent, Walsall**
- Three Bedroom Flat
 - Large Lounge
 - Large Kitchen/Diner
 - Family Bathroom
 - Newly Fitted Kitchen/Diner
 - DHSS Accepted

£450.00 PCM



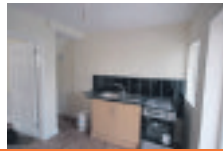
- Ripon Road, Walsall**
- ●●●●NEW BUILD●●●●
 - Three Bedroom Terrace
 - New Flooring Throughout
 - Front Off Road Parking
 - Rear Garden
 - Rating TBC



£575 PCM



- Botany Road, Walsall**
- Two Bedroom Mid-Terraced
 - Recently Fitted Kitchen/Diner
 - Family Bathroom
 - Conservatory
 - Double Glazing
 - Gas Central Heating

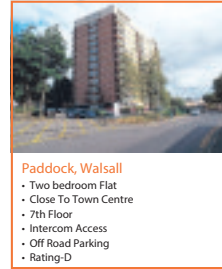


£550 PCM



- Borneo Street, Walsall**
- Two Bedroom Terrace
 - Walk in Shower Cubicle
 - Roll top Bath
 - Utility
 - Rear Garden
 - Rating-45

£550 PCM

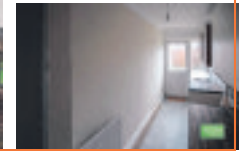


- Paddock, Walsall**
- Two bedroom Flat
 - Close To Town Centre
 - 7th Floor
 - Intercom Access
 - Off Road Parking
 - Rating-D

£450 PCM



- Jenner Road, Beechdale**
- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace
 - Front Dining Room
 - Rear Lounge
 - Fitted Kitchen
 - Family Bathroom
 - off road parking and a garage to rear.



£550 PCM



- Market Place, Willehnall**
- One Bedroom Flat
 - Above Retail Premises
 - Town Centre Location
 - Close to Transport Links
 - Deceptively Spacious
 - Rating-47

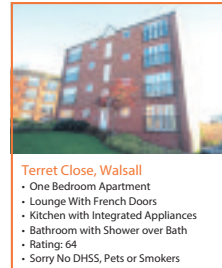


£350 PCM



- Revival Street, Bloxwich**
- TWO BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED
 - Lounge/Diner,
 - Kitchen
 - Guest W.C
 - Front & Rear Gardens
 - Off Road Parking

£550 PCM



- Terret Close, Walsall**
- One Bedroom Apartment
 - Lounge With French Doors
 - Kitchen with Integrated Appliances
 - Bathroom with Shower over Bath
 - Rating: 64
 - Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

£425 PCM



- Pendlebury Close, Walsall**
- ONE BEDROOM PENTHOUSE APARTMENT
 - D.Glazing
 - Gas Central Heating
 - Lounge with French Doors
 - Fitted Kitchen
 - EPC 83

£525 PCM



- Squires Grove, Willenhall**
- Two Bedroom Apartment
 - Lounge with Double Doors
 - Fitted Kitchen
 - Master Bedroom with Ensuite
 - Further Bedroom
 - Bathroom



£595 PCM



- Cecil Street, Walsall**
- FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
 - Electric Heating
 - Lounge/Integrated Kitchen
 - Large Shower Room
 - Allocated secure off road parking
 - Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

£475.00PCM



- Harrison Street, Walsall**
- First Floor Flat
 - Two Bedrooms
 - Fitted Kitchen
 - Private Entrance
 - Rating:33
 - DHSS Accepted

£400 PCM



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OIEO £650,000

ESSINGTON



HOUGH WAY, ESSINGTON

Executive Five Bed Detached, Guest W.C., Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility Room, Two En-Suite Shower Rooms, Refitted Family Shower Room, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway & Garage

OFFERS OVER £340,000

ESSINGTON



SNEYD LANE, W'TON

Three Bedroom Semi Detached, 26Ft Through Lounge/Diner, Impressive Fitted Kitchen, Modern Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway & Garage, Envious Location

OFFERS OVER £230,000

BRACKENDALE



DURSLEY CLOSE, WILLENHALL

Four/Five Bedroom Detached, 23ft x 15ft Lounge, Spacious Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room, Guest W.C., Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Driveway & Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden

OFFERS OVER £220,000

ST THOMAS LAWNS



PRINCETHORPE RD, WILLENHALL

Three Bedroom Detached, Spacious Lounge, Dining/Sitting Room, Feature Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Guest W.C., En-suite To Master, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Driveway & Garage

OFFERS OVER £215,000

WILLENHALL



DELAMERE ROAD, NEW INVENTION

Extended Four Bed Semi, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Separate Utility Area, Integral Garage, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & C/ Heating, Off Road Parking, Separate Garage/Workshop, No Chain

£189,995

BILSTON



MARBURY DRIVE, BILSTON

Modern Three Bed Link Detached, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Guest W.C., En-Suite Shower To Master, Family Shower Room, Part Double/ Part Triple Glazed & C/Heating, Off Road Parking, Garage

OFFERS OVER £150,000

NEW INVENTION



JOHN RILEY DR, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Semi, Modern Refitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Separate Sitting Room, Modern Refitted Bathroom, D/ Glazing & C/ Heating, Off Road Parking.

£145,000

BENTLEY



LANGMEAD CLOSE, WALSALL

Three Bed Semi Detached, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom, D/Glazing & C/ Heating, Front & Rear Garden, Driveway/Carport, Detached Garage, Viewing Advised!

£145,000

THE MANOR



HARPER STREET, WILLENHALL

Three Storey Mid Town House, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Guest W.C., Two First Floor Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Two Second Floor Bedrooms, D/ Glazing & C/Heating

OFFERS OVER £130,000

WILLENHALL



RAVENSBOURNE GR, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Mid Town House, Spacious Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Off Road Parking Space, Enclosed Rear Garden, Great F.T.B Or B.T.L

OFFERS OVER £95,000

NEW INVENTION



SQUIRES GROVE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Second Floor Apartment, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, En-Suite To Master Bedroom, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & Electric Heating, Allocated & Visitors Parking, Viewing Advised, Great FTB Or BTL Investment

OFFERS OVER £90,000

SHORT HEATH



EZEKIEL LANE, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Mid Terrace, Spacious Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & C/Heating, Rear Garden, Great BTL Or FTB, Viewing Advised!

OFFERS OVER £80,000

WILLENHALL



TAMESIDE CLOSE, WILLENHALL

Four Bed Mid Town House, 50% Shared Ownership, Ground Floor Kitchen/Diner, First Floor Lounge, Master Bed With En-Suite, Three Second Floor Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Driveway & Garage, D/Glazing & C/Heating

SHARED EQUITY £80,000

DEANSFIELD



TYBURN ROAD, W'TON

Two Bed Second Floor Flat, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & C/ Heating, Available With Or Without A Tenant, Great Buy To Let Investment, Viewing Advised!

OFFERS OVER £70,000

WEDNESBURY



ELWELL STREET, WEDNESBURY

One Bed First Floor Flat, Spacious Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Refitted Shower Room, C/Heating & D/Glazing, Generous Storage Area, Off Road Parking Area, Ideal BTL or FTB

OIRO £69,995

COPPICE FARM



MILES MEADOW CL, WILLENHALL

Three Bed Detached, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Guest W.C., Family Bathroom, Off Road Parking & Garage, Enclosed Rear Garden, Very Popular Location

£685 PCM

WEDNESFIELD



CAROL CRESCENT, WEDNESFIELD

Three Bedroom Bungalow, Spacious Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, Sun Room, Shower Room & Wet Room, C/Heating & D/Glazing, Front & Rear Gardens, Driveway & Car Port, Cul-De-Sac Location, Viewing Strongly Advised!

£675 PCM

BRACKENDALE



FURZEBANK WAY, W'TON

Spacious Three Bed Semi, Generous Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Ground Floor W.C., Family Bathroom With Shower, D/ Glazing & C/Heating, Detached Garage, Great Family Home

£650 PCM

SUMMER HAYES



THE HAYES, WILLENHALL

Immaculate Three Bed Town House, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom With Shower, Conservatory, D/ Glazing & C/Heating, Landscaped Rear Garden, Garage In Separate Block

£650 PCM

WILLENHALL



LITTLE CLOTHIER ST, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Semi Detached, Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Modern Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing & C/ Heating, Driveway Parking, Front & Rear Gardens, Cul-De-Sac Location

£575 PCM

BRACKENDALE



STROUD AVE, WILLENHALL

Spacious Three Bed Town House, Generous Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor W.C., Three Good Size Bedrooms, Family Bathroom With Shower, D/Glazing & G/C/Heating, Rear Garden & Garage

£550 PCM

NEW INVENTION



BRERETON ROAD, WILLENHALL

Two Bed Mid Town House, Though Lounge/Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Useful Side Storage, Two Double Bedrooms, Family Bthroom With Shower, D/Glazing & C/Heating, Off Road Parking

£500 PCM

WILLENHALL



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WALSALL
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- Exclusive Development
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen, Conservatory
- Utility, Guests WC
- 4 Bedrooms

- En-Suite Bathroom
- Double Garage
- Must Be Viewed
- NO CHAIN
- Adjacent to Turnberry Estate

\$325,000

BLOXWICH
POPULAR COURT



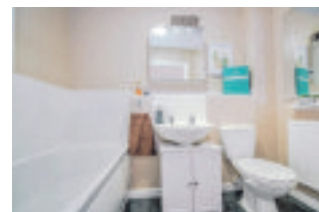
- Modern Extended Detached
- Through Hallway, Lounge/diner
- Kitchen, Dining Room
- Guest WC
- En Suite to Master Bedroom

- Family Bathroom
- 4 Bedrooms
- Integral Garage
- Driveway, Gardens

\$239,950

NEW

BLOXWICH
BELL TOWER CLOSE



- Modern Apartment
- Communal Hallway
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms

- Bathroom
- Parking
- NO CHAIN

OFFERS OVER \$90,000

PELSALL
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD



- Two Houses
- No Chain
- Two Bedroom
- Three Bedroom Individual Homes
- Sought After Location

- Viewing Essential
- Offered With No Chain

OFFERS OVER \$260,000

BLOXWICH
HADLEY WAY



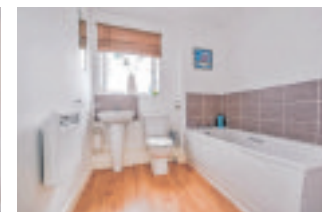
- Mid Town House
- Entrance Porch
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen

- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens, Driveway

\$110,000 Offers Over

REDUCED

AKTON GATE
COLUMBIA CRESCENT



- Modern Apartment
- Communal Hallway
- Through Hallway
- Lounge/Diner Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms

- Bathroom
- En-suite
- Parking

OFFERS OVER \$95,000

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8 Motoring

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9 Local Information

Public Notices



ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)(a) THE M6 AND M5 MOTORWAYS (M6 JUNCTIONS 7 TO 10) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) ORDER 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) intends to make an order on the M6 and M5 Motorways, in the Metropolitan Boroughs of Sandwell and Walsall, to enable the removal of overhead cameras and maintenance works to be carried out.

The effect of the Order will be to close, at different times, -

- (1) the northbound carriageway of the M6 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 7 to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 10;
- (2) the southbound carriageway of the M6 from its junction with the exit slip road at Junction 10 to its junction with the entry slip road at Junction 7;
- (3) the slip roads leading to the northbound carriageway of the M6 at Junction 7 and Junction 9;
- (4) the slip roads leading to the southbound carriageway of the M6 at Junction 10 and Junction 9;
- (5) the link road leading from the northbound carriageway of the M5 to the northbound carriageway of the M6 at M6 Junction 8; and
- (6) the link road leading from the northbound carriageway of the M5 to the southbound carriageway of the M6 at M6 Junction 8.

The work will be carried out overnight between 22:00 hours and 06:00 hours and is expected to start at on Monday 4 December 2017 and continue for five nights. The Order will come into force on 27 November 2017.

Vehicles being used for police, fire and rescue authority or ambulance purposes and vehicles being used in connection with the works or by a traffic officer in uniform will be exempt from the closures. Diversion routes via the A34, A4148 and A454 and vice versa will be signed.

For further information please contact Richard Gulliver on 0300 470 3037.

Karen Eustace, an officer in Highways England Company Limited. Highways England Company Limited (Company No. 9346363) registered office: Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ. A company registered in England and Wales.

Walsall Council, Planning, Engineering and Transportation

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planning@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darvall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DC. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice. **Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

17/1377 Sanman Properties FOR: ERECTION OF 12 NO. THREE BED HOUSES WITH ASSOCIATED PARKING AND LANDSCAPING AT: FORMER LANE ARMS PH, 169 WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD WEST, BENTLEY

17/1421 KAYLA KARIN INTERIOR DESIGN FOR: ALUMINIUM CLADDING OVER EXISTING TOP FASCIA WITH BLUE LED TROUGH LIGHTING ABOVE, USE OF ACRYLIC AND VINYL LETTERING APPLIED TO FASCIA AND FURTHER LED DOWN LIGHTING AND LIGHT BOXES UNDER CANOPY AT: UNITS 4 TO 5, BRIDGE HOUSE, 47-55, BRIDGE STREET, WALSALL, WS1 1JQ

17/1420 KAYLA KARIN INTERIOR DESIGN FOR: REVISED SHOPFRONT (RE-SUBMISSION OF 17/0724) AT: UNITS 4 TO 5, BRIDGE HOUSE, 47-55, BRIDGE STREET, WALSALL, WS1 1JQ

17/1399 Mr S Paddon FOR: GARAGE AND CARPORT EXTENSION TO SIDE OF HOUSE. AT: 37, WILKES CLOSE, PELSALL, WALSALL, WS3 1JP

17/0826 & 17/0851 Mrs Patricia Davies FOR: PART DEMOLITION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL. AT: 1B, DOVERIDGE PLACE, WALSALL, WS1 3EF

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to

Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk

(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

JACQUELINE PEARSON (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Silver Trees 38 Enderley Drive Blonish Walsall West Midlands WS3 3PE, who died on 24/01/2017, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 19/01/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

HCB SOLICITORS LIMITED
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MAUREEN KINSELLA (Deceased)

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ENOCH EVANS LLP
6-9 Hatherton Road Walsall WS1 1XS T514971

PAUL ANDREW CONNELL (Deceased)

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10 Personals

Personal

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#LIONESSES





Steve Bull and chairman Dave Maydew with Olivia Green, Ella Green, Liam Bailey and Olivia Grainger



Diane Cook, James Newman, chairman Maydew and Rebecca Harris at the opening of the new pavilion



Inside the Bilbrook Juniors' changing rooms



The impressive £850,000 development

New facilities enable life to begin at 40 for club

SPORTING FEATURE

By Matt Maher

"We had to put our case forward. At times it felt like we were moving one step forward and then two back."

THE building of an £850,000 new facility has a football club believing they can prove life begins at 40.

Bilbrook Juniors fielded their first team back in 1978 and will next year enter the fifth decade stronger than ever thanks the new state-of-the-art pavilion at their Pendeford Lane home which features changing rooms, a clubhouse and bar.

Constructed with the aid of grants from the Premier League, the FA and Wolverhampton City Council, it has club members hailing a new dawn.

"The club has been in existence for nearly 40 years but in many ways this is the starting point," said chairman Dave Maydew.

Reality

"Having a facility like this has been a long-term goal and it has taken the hard work of too many people to mention in order to make it a reality.

"But in many ways the big job starts now. Until now all the money has gone into keeping the club going. Now we are in a position where we can start giving back."

The new facility is the result of a decade-long campaign and replaces the club's previous clubhouse, which had fallen into a state of disrepair.

It was made possible thanks to a £484,529 grant from the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund, which is delivered by the Football Foundation. Wolverhampton City Council also contributed £350,000



Bilbrook Juniors Under-11s East are one of the many teams to wear the club colours

to the project. "We had to put our case forward. It wasn't a simple or easy process and at times it felt like we were moving one step forward and then two back," said Maydew.

"But the end result is more than worth it. I would love to be able to list all the people who have helped us out along the way but quite frankly it would take up two pages of the newspaper.

"We are all volunteers, no-one getting paid a penny. We do it because we love it. I joined the club 22 years ago when my son started playing aged five.

"Before then I used to play football myself. Now I feel like I am giving something back.

"It's been a real team effort and means we can now move onto the next phase."

The new facility, at a ground which features two full-sized pitches and four mini-pitches, was opened last month by Wolves legend Steve Bull.

Complete with two referee's changing rooms and a kitchen, along with spectator toilets with disabled access, it is expected to increase participation at a club

which already fields 31 teams at all age levels in a variety of regional leagues, including a ladies team.

In total Bilbrook have around 1,500 members including players, coaches and volunteers.

Future plans will see the construction of floodlights which should allow Bilbrook's mens team, who currently play in Division One of the West Midlands League, to further climb the non-league pyramid.

The facility is also set to benefit both the community and other clubs. Otter and Vixen FC and Gornal Colts will also use the site, while Wolves Community Trust are set to deliver training and community outreach programmes.

"It is not just for the club but for the community too, particularly for the children," said Maydew. "There is now a facility which can host functions. The old clubhouse was a drain on us. No-one wanted to go in but we were still paying for the gas and the electric. That is money which can now be reinvested into the club and help us build toward the future."

"In many ways this feels like a new beginning."

Globetrotters tour to stop off in Brum

THE world famous Harlem Globetrotters will bring their spectacular show to Birmingham next year during their 2018 World Tour.

The players have shot hoops with President Obama, played with Manchester United and much more. And they will be showing off their skills at the Genting Arena on May 18.

The Globetrotters recently wrapped up a busy 90th year tour, during which they named Pope Francis the ninth Honorary Harlem Globetrotter in team history, walked the runway at New York Fashion week, launched the Great Assist initiative alongside Robin Roberts - whom the team also named an honorary Harlem Globetrotter - pledging to spread 100 million smiles over the next 10 years, broke seven Guinness World Records and remixed the team's legendary theme song, "Sweet Georgia Brown," with the help of Grammy Award-winning producer/songwriter Teddy Riley.

The Harlem Globetrotters® are legendary worldwide, synonymous with one-of-a-kind family entertainment and great basketball skills.

Speedway bosses to hold key talks

WOLVERHAMPTON Speedway have lined up a couple of key winter dates for fans. With the AGM of all promoters fast approaching, the club will be hosting a winter talk-in at the Cleveland Arms on Stow Heath Lane, close to Monmore, on Monday, November 27.

Representatives from the club management will be on hand to discuss developments and the impact decisions will have on Parrys International Wolves team building. The event is expected to start at 8pm.

Meanwhile, the traditional pre-Christmas season ticket day has been arranged for the stadium on Saturday, December 2, between 9.30am-1.30pm with the usual big turnout expected.

In Birmingham Brummies star Liam Carr announced his shock decision to quit speedway at the club's end-of-season presentation on Saturday. The 21-year-old broke the news after picking up three awards as he told fans 'that's me done'.

Matches switched for live TV coverage

TWO Wolves games and three Villa matches have been switched for live broadcast on Sky Sports.

Wolves now head to Sheffield Wednesday on Friday, December 15 (7.45pm) instead of the following day.

Their trip to Bristol City on December 30 is now a 5.30pm kick-off too. As a result of that game being later, the visit of Brentford has been moved back to January 2 (7.45pm, not on TV).

Villa's home game against Sheffield United on December 23 has been put back to 5.30pm. The trip to Brentford on Boxing Day is now a 7.30pm start and the match at Nottingham Forest on January 15 has been changed to a 5.30pm kick-off.

Even the lower divisions are finding their fixture list tweaked for television. Walsall took a break from their League One campaign on Saturday when they took on Newport County away in the FA Cup. The match was shown live on S4C with a 5.15pm kick-off.



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Tenacious Darlaston find a way

Old Wulfrunians 0
Darlaston Town (1874) 2

WITH just one defeat in their last 11 league games 2nd placed Old Wulfs opened brightly but the work rate and tenacity of Darlaston ensured the home side were easily contained.

Noah Diallo and Ryan Bradshaw were sharp up front but Ryan McAllister and Lucas Hough stood firm at the heart of the defence. The 17-goal strike partnership of Scott Broadway and Hayden Hughes both had efforts blocked with Jack Rowley and Josh McEvoy impressive at the heart of the home defence.

The visitors took the lead on 24 minutes, Giles and Hughes combined down the left, Hughes cut inside and unleashed a 16 yard shot, keeper Jamie Bostock failed to hold on to the ball and Broadway slotted home from eight yards.

Darlaston opened the second half full of confidence the impressive Luke Charlton and Ricky Kelly finding space in midfield to create openings for O'Connell and Broadway.

The game turned in the 50th minute when Wulfs were reduced to 10 men Chris Farnell sent off for a stamp on Charlton. As is often the case being reduced to 10 men spurred on the home side and unsettled Darlaston who started to chase the game leaving them exposed to the pace of Diallo and Billy Morgan.

Darlaston eventually doubled their lead on 64 minutes. Martin Stanton set up Sam Giles whose pace took him clear of Kyle Pearson, the winger whipped in a right wing cross which found Broadway whose first effort was saved by Bostock but the striker was first to react and he poked the ball home from four yards.

Bloxwich fail to beat Chesterfield in tight contest

Bloxwich 1 Chesterfield 3

BLOXWICH were disappointed to lose their second game of the season on Saturday in a close fought contest against a well-drilled Chesterfield team.

Bloxwich started strong, defended well with debutant and man of the match Ross Unitt making some fantastic saves to keep Bloxwich's hopes of a win alive.

Chesterfield took the lead through a deflected shot in the first half. Bloxwich went up the other end and got the equaliser with a well taken-down aerial to Jake Perkins being passed across the goal for Phil Ashcroft to finish off.

Bloxwich knew that Chesterfield were going to press hard in the second half and weathered their storm well. Chesterfield were quicker than a tired Bloxwich and got two late goals to take the win.

Bloxwich left Sneyd devastated with the loss; knowing they could have taken the three points. Bloxwich go on and look forward to their visit to Streetly next weekend.

Trophies roll in for Great Barr youngsters



Trophy winner Matt

TWO teenage members of Great Barr Golf Club are enjoying a very successful year.

Their performances have delighted club officials who predict a bright future in the game for Ellis Muckley and Matt Sheldon, both 17, writes Paul Marston.

Muckley, a former student at Wood Green Academy, is from Wednesbury, plays off a handi-

cap of two, and is currently attending the Lee Westwood Golf Academy in Cheshire, five days a week. Highlight of his year came recently when he won Great Barr's main Championship, shooting 77 and 71 in the two rounds, then clinching the title after a three-hole play-off against two adult members of the club.

Sheldon, from Streetly, is

studying at Streetly Academy, and, playing off a handicap of five, he recently won the Staffs County Junior Order of Merit after a sudden death play-off against another young Great Barr member, Dan Taylor.

He also captained the Staffordshire under-16 Boys to victory in the annual Midland 10 Counties Cup, which was played at Great Barr.



Ellis Muckley with

SKIPPER GIVES BOSS BACKING

CAPTAIN Adam Chambers insists Walsall's players are fully behind under-fire boss Jon Whitney.

The Saddlers' disappointing season hit a new low on Saturday as Whitney's men crashed out of the FA Cup at League Two Newport County.

It is the second time in two years Walsall have exited the world's oldest cup competition in the first round - with non-league Macclesfield running out 1-0 winners at the Banks's Stadium last season.

Whitney was already under pressure from supporters heading to South Wales but the defeat led to angry calls for him to be moved on.

Chambers, though, says the entire squad are behind their boss and has vowed the team will turn their fortunes around. "All the lads are playing for the manager," the skipper declared. "I have got a lot of respect for him. He has done an awful lot for me in my time at the club.

"We are all pulling in the same direction and all trying to do our best for him and the club. The lads are the same as me. We want to do well for ourselves and for him as well. We are all behind him, most definitely. It is disappointing when things don't go our way but we are working hard to put things right and we will."

Goals from Frank Nouble and Shawn McCoulsky ensured it was the Exiles who made it into the draw for the second round - with Ama Bakayoko netting a consolation for the Saddlers.

McCoulsky's goal arrived less than 30 seconds after the second half had got under way - with Chambers admitting Walsall needed to be better in Wales.

"It is very disappointing to go out of the FA Cup in the first round," he said. "We played OK at times. We've conceded an unlucky goal in the first half which didn't help. And then a sloppy bit of play from ourselves at the start of the second half has given us a lot to do. The lads stayed positive out there and tried to get on the front foot. But it wasn't to be."

County proves to be better side



Walsall players watch as Frank Nouble celebrates Newport's opener Pic: Will Kilpatrick

IT was a result Walsall and boss Jon Whitney simply had to avoid, but put very simply, this FA Cup performance proved Newport County wanted it more.

And that desire could be seen when they opened the scoring.

After collecting the ball 30 yards from goal, Frank Nouble bullied his way past both Adam Chambers and Shaun Donnellan far too easily.

And while he then unleashed a strike that appeared to be sailing wide, the ball took a huge deflection off Jon Guthrie to end up in the top corner. It was a poor goal for Walsall to concede, but worse was to follow.

A staggering 28 seconds into the second half, the Saddlers found themselves 2-0 down - with an instructions Whitney had given his players instantly thrown out the window.

Joe Edwards lost possession to the outstanding Ben White, who then stepped into midfield before finding Shawn McCoulsky in the box.

And the Bristol City loanee then produced the calmest of finishes to effortlessly stroke the ball into the corner.

They did pull a goal back when Ama Bakayoko glanced home a brilliant header following a wonderful whipped cross from Maz Kouyhar.

And while they had a late flurry in a bid to

Wood work hard to open floodgates

Coverity Alvis 0
Walsall Wood 7

FOR much of the match, Wood had to work hard for this win but four goals in the last 17 minutes gave the scoreline a more realistic look.

Leading scorer Paul Sullivan came off the bench for 30 minutes to score a hat-trick, there were two for Tony Clarke and a goal each for debutants Stan Mugisha and Matt Gardener. Wood took almost complete control from the off.

After 10 minutes of one way traffic Josh Dixon intercepted a poor Wood pass was allowed to run on, his vicious drive from the edge of the box blocked by skipper Mitch Tolley.

Normal service soon resumed when a minute later Stan Mugisha came inside from wide right, his low drive beat keeper Jack Tregarth only for the ball to be blocked on the line.

The opening goal finally arrived on 35 minutes, a neat move through the centre saw Gardener release Mugisha into the box, he calmly rounded the stranded keeper before rolling the ball home.

To their credit the home side came out all guns blazing in the second half but couldn't find a way through Wood's solid defence.

Alvis continued to deny Wood space, then on 60 minutes Paul Sullivan returned to action after a month out.

Intercepted

Eight minutes later, Clarke won the ball on the left of the box, cut inside and fired the ball into the roof of the net.

Five minutes later it was four, Hayden intercepted a pass on halfway and fed Sullivan through the centre, he ran on and calmly beat the advancing keeper.

On 82 minutes it was Hayden releasing Sullivan wide right, he cut inside and calmly made it 5-0.

Six minutes later Gould raced into the left of the box, going down under a clumsy challenge, penalty - Sullivan 6-0. You had to sympathise now with Alvis, they were running on empty but right on time Clarke was put clear on the right of the box, Tregarth dived bravely at his feet but the striker came away with the ball and scored past two defenders on the line.

The basement boys worked so hard to keep the score down but the introduction of Sullivan on the hour mark was too much for them in the end. The gap at the top is now cut to five points with Wood now three games in hand.

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